FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

Daily Report

East Europe

FBIS-EEU-89-005
Monday
9 January 1989

Daily Report
East Europe

FBIS-EEU-89-005 *9 January 1989*

CONTENTS

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Chemical Weapons Ban Conference Held in Paris 1
Johanes Arrives *[CTK]* 1
Fischer Arrives *[ADN]* 1
Fischer, Mitterrand Hold Talks *[ADN]* 1
Mladenov Meets Libyan Official *[Sofia Radio]* 1
Mladenov, Turkey's Yilmaz Meet *[Sofia Radio]* 1
Mladenov Talks With Malile *[Sofia Radio]* 2
Varkonyi Delivers Address *[MTI]* 2
Varkonyi Confers With Dumas *[MTI]* 4
Malile Meets Varkonyi, Others *[Tirana Radio]* 4
Olechowski Gives Speech *[PAP]* 4
Olechowski Meets Counterparts *[PAP]* 5

ALBANIA

U.S. Downing of Libyan Aircraft Condemned *[ATA]* 6
Foreign Minister Malile Departs for Paris 6 Jan *[Tirana Radio]* 6
Gjyzari Attends Cuban Embassy Reception *[Tirana Radio]* 6
Alia, Carcani Greet Cambodian Leaders *[Tirana Radio]* 6

BULGARIA

Ministry Issues Statement on Libyan Incident *[BTA]* 7
Zhivkov Sends Message to Chemical Arms Conference *[BTA]* 7
Mladenov Leaves for Conference *[Sofia Radio]* 7
Danish Embassies in Bulgaria, Romania Downgraded
[Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE 24 Dec] 7
Khristov Meets Cambodia's Heng Samrin *[BTA]* 8
Officials Attend Cambodian National Day Reception *[Sofia Radio]* 8
Cuban Envoy Gives National Day Reception *[Sofia Radio]* 8
Relations With Turkey, 'Pan-Turkism' Analyzed *[OTECHESTVEN FRONT 4 Jan]* 8
Demographic Data on Population Released *[BTA]* 11

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Comment on Semtex Link in Pan Am Crash 12
Foreign Media's Claims Refuted *[Prague Radio]* 12
Responsibility Denied *[Kovarik in RUDE PRAVO 5 Jan]* 12
UK Charge Discusses Crash *[Prague Radio]* 13
Further Report *[Prague Radio]* 13
Jakes Concludes Nicaragua, Cuba Tour 13
Arrives in Managua *[Prague TV]* 13
Talks With Ortega *[CTK]* 14
Receives Award *[CTK]* 14
Further on Award Speech *[Prague Radio]* 15
Meets Media at Conference *[Prague Radio]* 15
More on News Conference *[Prague TV]* 15
Ortega Assesses Visit *[CTK]* 16
Confers With Castro *[Prague Radio]* 16
Returns Home *[Prague Radio]* 16
Resigned SFRY Government 'Regrouping Forces' *[Loerincz in Bratislava PRAVDA 3 Jan]* 16
Charter 77 Claims Police Killed Driver *[AFP]* 17

Beno Named New Chairman of Group *[Bratislava PRAVDA 3 Jan]* 17
New EXPRESS Chief Editor Announced *[Bratislava PRAVDA 30 Dec]* 17
New Customs Regulations Seen as Counterproductive *[RUDE PRAVO 30 Dec]* 17
Substantial Decrease in Coal Reserves Noted *[CTK]* 18
Natural Gas Reservoir Nearly Finished *[RUDE PRAVO 30 Dec]* 18
Leaders' Public Appearances for 21-29 Dec 19

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

SED Group Visits FRG on DKP Invitation *[ADN]* 20
Attends 9th DKP Congress Opening *[ADN]* 20
Former Intelligence Chief Wolf Interviewed *[Hamburg DER SPIEGEL 2 Jan]* 20
Schabowski Honored on 60th Birthday *[ADN]* 22
Leaders' Public Appearances for 28 Dec-3 Jan *[NEUES DEUTSCHLAND]* 22

HUNGARY

Council of Ministers Issues Price Increases *[MTI]* 23
Further on New Price Hikes *[Budapest Radio]* 23
Union Head on 'Vehement Reaction' to Price Hikes *[MTI]* 23
SZOT Board on New Prices, Strikes *[MTI]* 24
Nemeth on 'People's Front,' Coalition Government *[MTI]* 24
Pozsgay Interviewed, 'Alternative' Groups Noted *[MTI]* 25
'Federation of Young Professionals' Founded 7 Jan *[MTI]* 26
Straub Interviewed on Dam Referendum Possibility *[Budapest Radio]* 26
Grosz Meets With Central Control Commission *[MTI]* 26
Trade Minister Discusses 1989 Prospects *[MTI]* 27
Agricultural Successes, Problems Reviewed *[MTI]* 27
Nyers Says CEMA 'Incapable' of Self-Reform *[MTI]* 27
Police Deny 18 Corpses Found by Romanian Border *[Budapest Radio]* 28
Groups Urge Action on Romanian Refugees *[Budapest Radio]* 28
Foreign Minister Varkonyi Leaves for Paris *[MTI]* 28
Matyas Szuros Applauds Gorbachev UN Speech *[Moscow PRAVDA 3 Jan]* 28
National Bank Spokesman on Japanese Loan *[MTI]* 30
FRG Accord Signed on Hungarian Guest Workers *[MTI]* 30
MSZMP Greets SED on KPD Anniversary *[East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND 30 Dec]* 30
Pope Appoints Hungarian Assistant Bishops *[MAGYAR HIRLAP 31 Dec]* 31

POLAND

Statement Issued on U.S.-Libyan Relations *[PAP]* 32
Malinowski Meets Envoy in Tehran, Supports 598 *[Tehran IRNA]* 32
Siwicki Interviewed on Army Changes *[TRYBUNA LUDU 4 Jan]* 32
Sejm Committee Discusses Defense Budget *[PAP]* 38
Walesa Interviewed on State's Changes, Problems *[Warsaw Radio]* 38
Paper Assesses Walesa POLITYKA Interview *[PAP]* 39
New Catholic Student Group Registered *[Vatican City Radio]* 39
Minister on Import-Export Imbalance *[PAP]* 39

ROMANIA

U.S. Downing of Libyan Planes Condemned *[AGERPRES]* 40
Settling Conflicts by Negotiations Urged *[AGERPRES]* 40
Ceausescu 29 Dec Speech to Well-Wishers *[SCINTEIA 30 Dec]* 41
Ceausescu Chairs Meeting With Economic Cadres *[Bucharest Radio]* 44
E. Ceausescu Honored With Birthday Celebration *[AGERPRES]* 45
PEC Hosts Birthday Luncheon *[AGERPRES]* 45
Leaders' Public Appearances for 31 Dec-7 Jan 46

YUGOSLAVIA

PRC's Qian Qichen's Visit Draws to Close 47
Speaks on Taiwan, USSR Ties *[TANJUG]* 47
Received by Suvar *[TANJUG]* 47
Leaves for Paris With Loncar *[TANJUG]* 47
UN Envoy Speaks on Libyan Plane Incident *[TANJUG]* 47
United States in 'Risky Game' With Libya *[Milenkovic on Belgrade Radio]* 48
Eagleburger, Scowcroft Appointments Noted *[Belgrade Radio]* 48
Arms Cache Found in Car by Border Guards *[TANJUG]* 49
New Association Expected To Be Founded in Zagreb *[Belgrade Radio]* 49
Foreign Debt, Creditor Status Reviewed *[TANJUG]* 50
Bohinc on Indispensability of Money Market *[BORBA 28 Dec]* 50
Rijeka Radio Workers Begin 1-Day Strike *[TANJUG]* 52
Slovene LC Objects to YPA Budget Proposal *[TANJUG]* 52
Belgrade Radio Views Future for New FEC *[Jovic on Belgrade Radio]* 52
Belgrade LC on Protest at VJESNIK Office *[Belgrade Radio]* 53
Slovene SAWP Discusses New Slovene Programs *[Belgrade Radio]* 53
Kucan Interviewed by Zagreb Periodical *[BORBA 30 Dec]* 54
Vojvodina PC Presidium Lists Candidates *[TANJUG]* 55
Aspects of Croatian Scene Viewed *[POLITIKA 28 dec]* 56
11 Kosovo LC Committee Members Resign *[TANJUG]* 57
Kosovo Committee Approves Candidate List *[TANJUG]* 57
Kosovo LC on Organ Candidates *[TANJUG]* 57
Istok Security, Police Officials Dismissed *[TANJUG]* 60

Chemical Weapons Ban Conference Held in Paris

Johanes Arrives

LD0601174889 Prague CTK in English 1556 GMT 6 Jan 89

[Text] Paris Jan 6 (CTK correspondent)—Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Jaromir Johanes arrived here today to attend an international conference on a chemical weapons ban.

The five-day talks of delegations from more than 140 states, 80 of which are led by foreign ministers, will start on Saturday with a speech of French President Francois Mitterrand.

Fischer Arrives

LD0601204889 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1557 GMT 6 Jan 89

[Text] Paris (ADN)—A GDR Government delegation headed by Foreign Minister Oskar Fischer arrived in Paris on Friday afternoon to attend the Paris conference on banning chemical weapons, which is due to begin on Sunday. At Orly airport, Minister Fischer expressed his pleasure at being in Paris again, 1 year after Erich Honecker's successful state visit to France. The GDR has supported the initiative of President Francois Mitterrand to call this conference from the very start. the GDR delegation will do all it can at the conference to ensure that the talks lead to the initiation of a convention on a worldwide ban on chemical weapons, the drafting of which has been substantially advanced by the Geneva disarmament conference.

Minister Fischer pointed out that he would be using his stay in Paris to have an exchange of views with numerous colleagues.

Fischer, Mitterrand Hold Talks

LD0801203389 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1955 GMT 7 Jan 89

[Text] Paris (ADN)—Cordial greetings from Erich Honecker, general secretary of the Central Committee of the SED and chairman of the GDR's Council of State, to Francois Mitterrand, president of the French Republic, were conveyed this evening by GDR Foreign Minister Oskar Fischer on the opening day of the Paris conference on banning chemical weapons at a reception for foreign delegation leaders at the Elysee Palace. He congratulated Francois Mitterrand on his initiative in calling the conference. The French president expressed cordial thanks and asked that his greetings and best wishes be conveyed to Erich Honecker. He described it as encouraging that at the very beginning of the new year representatives of 145 states had come together in Paris with the objective of giving lasting momentum to efforts to ban chemical weapons globally.

On the periphery of the Paris conference, Oskar Fischer met with his official counterparts from The Netherlands, Morocco, Switzerland, Tunisia, Romania, Cyprus, and other states on Sunday.

Mladenov Meets Libyan Official

AU0601203289 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 2000 GMT 6 Jan 89

[Text] The day preceding the opening in Paris of the international conference on banning chemical weapons was a very crowded one for a great number of the delegations, who are taking the opportunity to have bilateral and multilateral meetings.

Foreign Minister Petur Mladenov had a meeting with Zaydallah 'Aziz al-Salihi, secretary of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison of the General People's Committee of the Socialist People's Libyan Jamahiriyah.

They examined issues connected with the forthcoming conference. The common view was expressed that it was necessary to draft an all-embracing convention on banning chemical weapons, which would be an important stabilizing factor in international relations.

The leader of the Libyan delegation voiced his country's alarm over the dangerous incident in the Mediterranean in which two Libyan aircraft were shot down.

Petur Mladenov confirmed Bulgaria's principled position of support for the sovereignty of the Libyan Jamahiriyah.

The two participants in the talks voiced the readiness of their delegations to exert all efforts to ensure the success of the Paris conference.

Later, the Bulgarian minister of foreign affairs took part in a meeting of the leaders of delegations, organized at the Soviet Embassy in Paris, at the invitation of Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze.

The meeting, held in a friendly atmosphere, gave an opportunity for exchanges of views on the issues that will be on the agenda of tomorrow's conference.

Mladenov, Turkey's Yilmaz Meet

AU0701212689 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 2030 GMT 7 Jan 89

[Text] Foreign Minister Petur Mladenov had a conversation in Paris today with Mesut Yilmaz, minister of foreign affairs of Turkey.

In a statement to journalists following the meeting, Comrade Petur Mladenov stated that they had reviewed the development of relations between Bulgaria and Turkey during the period since the signing of the protocol in Belgrade.

We established that there are points [pozitsii] regarding the implementation of the decisions made at that time which are proceeding well, noted Comrade Petur Mladenov. There are issues on which our thinking is the same, but naturally there are also issues on which our views differ. I think that there is nothing abnormal about this. We both agreed that we must continue to make efforts to ensure that the relations between Bulgaria and Turkey develop well in the future, which would be to the benefit of both peoples, and to peace in the Balkans and Europe. I would like to inform you that the future of Bulgarian-Turkish relations is good, and to assure you that Bulgaria will work for this future, the Bulgarian minister stated in conclusion.

Mesut Yilmaz confirmed the existence of concurrences and differences in the assessments of the development of the relations between the two states. He pointed out that the Bulgarian side is striving to maintain a lively dialogue with Turkey, and that new meetings are expected in order that the talks may continue.

Mladenov Talks With Malile

AU0801152089 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1400 GMT 8 Jan 89

[Text] On 8 January Petur Mladenov, Bulgarian minister of foreign affairs, who is taking part in the Paris conference on banning chemical weapons, met Reis Malile, Albanian foreign minister.

The two foreign ministers discussed the situation in the Balkans and the state of bilateral relations. Satisfaction with the ascending development of Balkan cooperation was expressed. Certain new ideas related to continuing this positive process were reviewed. Special attention was devoted to Bulgarian-Albanian relations. The two ministers expressed their countries' willingness to expand bilateral relations.

Varkonyi Delivers Address

LD0801180089 Budapest MTI in English 1559 GMT 8 Jan 89

[Text] Paris, January 8 (MTI)—Hungarian Foreign Minister Peter Varkonyi addressed the conference on chemical weapons, in Paris on Sunday. Here follows the full text.

On behalf of the Government of the Hungarian People's Republic, I wish, first of all, to express our sincere satisfaction with the initiative taken at the end of September before the United Nations General Assembly by President Reagan and President Mitterrand. Their proposal was well received by the community of member states, and the General Assembly was unanimous in welcoming the offer by the French Government to organize this conference. My delegation considers this willingness and the expeditious preparations worthy of special mention, and offers its thanks to the host country. I wish also to avail myself of this opportunity to greet you, Mr. President, upon your election to this post of high responsibility. May I assure you of the full cooperation of the Hungarian delegation and its unconditional support for you in guiding this conference to success.

Hungary attaches great importance to this conference convened to facilitate the prohibition of chemical weapons. We consider that this conference is significant both politically and in the context of military security, because the process of scaling down military confrontation and transforming military capabilities for defensive purposes cannot yield lasting results unless it covers a dangerous type of weapons of mass destruction, namely chemical weapons.

On the other hand, removal of local and regional hotbeds of crisis is indispensable to strengthening international security and creating its new quality. The favourable developments of the past year in this field have opened a new perspective for the settlement of such conflicts. This is why we feel worried about the fact that, in so far as certain regional conflicts are concerned, there have been steps taken toward building qualitatively new military capabilities that will tend to act as a destabilizing factor, weakening, among others, the ban precisely on the use of chemical weapons, and impeding the conclusion of an agreement on their destruction.

This conference was convened because the nations and the governments of the world are deeply worried by the danger that stems from the existence of chemical weapons, a danger that in recent years has tragically manifested itself in the repeated use of these barbaric weapons. The Hungarian Government has condemned the use of chemical weapons, which is a violation of the generally accepted norms of international law, and has pressed for their complete and global elimination, as the only assured guarantee against their use.

The Hungarian People's Republic, as a party to the 1925 Geneva Protocol, reaffirms its full respect for the commitment it has taken concerning the prohibition as contained in that treaty. We are convinced that each state must strictly observe the principles and objectives of the protocol. It is therefore desirable that all states of the world soon become parties to the 1925 Geneva Protocol. At the same time, we also wish to call on all states that have not yet done so to accede to the convention on the prohibition of bacteriological (biological) and toxin weapons.

The convening of this conference was necessitated also by indications, spreading in an increasing number, of the growing risk of the emergence or the growth of chemical weapon stocks in various parts of the world, and consequently, of the growing danger of their use. The shocking effect of reports about the use of chemical weapons, and the growing risk that they may be used again, compel the community of states to multiply their efforts in order to eliminate the danger inherent in chemical weapon stock.

It is the firm position of the Hungarian Government that there is only one satisfactory safeguard against that danger—the elimination of its material base. More precisely: the elimination of the existing stocks and capacities by way of a convention on the complete and global prohibition of chemical weapons, covering every phase of their production or acquisition, and every state of the world.

It is a promising development of the past few years that in international relations, including the talks that affect the present and future of mankind, a new sense of responsibility is getting to prevail with increasing insistence. This is amply demonstrated by the highly important ideas expressed by Mikhail Gorbachev in his address to the United Nations General Assembly a month ago as well as by the rather favourable response to the Soviet efforts and proposals. There is today an international consensus of opinion that may be summarized in the following way: In the shadow of arsenals capable of annihilating human civilization, war and armaments can no longer serve as a means to settle international disputes and conflicts of interests. Their place must be taken over by a new cooperative security structure that is built through negotiations and agreements on arms limitation. This way of thinking with man and world civilization in its sentre must soon become irreversible, and must determine the attitude of individuals, national governments and international forums. This way of thinking should manifest itself also in the decisions of this conference.

Less than a year ago, speaking at the conference on disarmament, I had the opportunity to declare officially that on Hungarian territory there are no stockpiles of chemical weapons or facilities to produce such weapons. We do not carry out any sort of research or development of chemical weapons, nor do we intend to acquire any chemical weapons capacity. Today I can reaffirm that Hungary continues to stand for a complete, global and strictly verifiable prohibition, for the total elimination of all stocks and production capacities.

Starting from this position, Hungarian disarmament diplomacy pays particular attention to negotiations on a comprehensive chemical weapon ban. By way of our initiatives and proposals we try to promote and accelerate the elaboration of the convention.

The creation and maintenance of a favourable atmosphere needed to have success in negotiations are facilitated by the strengthening of confidence among the parties involved, by greater openness and predictability concerning the subject discussed. Therefore, we emphasize the special importance of individual declarations made by numerous states whether or not they possess chemical weapons or relevant production capacities. This practice should soon be followed by other states, and not only by those actually taking part in the negotiations.

The peculiar characteristics of the chemical industry in general make it necessary for states to mutually convince and reassure each other about the peaceful designs of the civilian chemical industry. Without endangering the legitimate interests of the industry, each state should urge the chemical industry to take voluntary steps leading to greater openness and predictability. In so doing states could make a significant contribution to accelerating negotiations, and create better conditions for promptly acceding to the future convention. Thus they could already now help to bring about its universality.

The creation of confidence and the promotion of negotiations—in particular, the elaboration of verification measures, one of the major concerns of the convention—are well served by the latest initiative of the conference on disarmament to conduct trial inspections. In this project every state can play a role if its chemical industry is willing to commit itself to the objectives of a chemical weapons convention. May I mention here that the chemical industry in Hungary has taken up that cause, and the first national trial inspection was already held a month ago. We feel tempted to believe that negotiations on the chemical weapons convention should now concentrate on the evaluation and distribution of experiences gained in national trial inspections, on searching for the possibilities of bilateral and muitilateral cooperation in further trial inspections, on giving those inspections an international aspect, and on experimenting with further types of verification methods. Hungary will continue contributing to the exploration and exploitation of those possibilities.

We believe that our individual actions form part of collective efforts, and serve to pave the way to the early achievement of a chemical weapons ban. We also have understanding and sympathy for any other individual measure towards that goal, including those designed to prevent the emergence or the increase of chemical weapons stocks. It is our firm belief, however, that all such steps and initiatives can only be effective and lasting if they are integrated in the convention on a comprehensive prohibition.

In the fields of international security, arms limitation and disarmament we recognize the important role of the United Nations and the Geneva Conference on Disarmament, and also support the strengthening of that role. I am confident that the elaboration of the verification measures of the comprehensive prohibition would be advanced if, in the meantime, the United Nations secretary-general could be given added possibilities to exercise vigilance over the observance of the prohibition of use of chemical weapons, and to investigate, in a rapid and convincing manner, any suspicions or allegations in that respect. I can add here that we also wish to support the secretary-general in the discharge of that function, and are ready to provide qualified experts and laboratories.

Such are, briefly, the main purposes and positions of the Hungarian Government in respect of the items on our agenda. We consider it imperative that the conference

achieve its main political goals: the reaffirmation of the prohibition contained in the 1925 Geneva Protocol, and the acceleration of negotiations in Geneva aimed at the earliest possible conclusion and entry into force of an international convention on the complete, global and effectively verifiable prohibition of chemical weapons. We are ready to give our full support to achieve these goals, and in this spirit we urge to adopt by consensus the final declaration of the conference.

Varkonyi Confers With Dumas

LD0801212289 Budpaest MTI in English
2022 GMT 8 Jan 89

[Text] Paris, January 8 (MTI)—Hungarian Foreign Minister Peter Varkonyi met French Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Roland Dumas, the president of the world conference on chemical weapons, on Sunday. The brief bilateral meeting focused on issues of Hungarian-French relations.

During his brief stay in Paris, the Hungarian foreign minister also met the delegations of several other countris attending the conference.

Malile Meets Varkonyi, Others

AU0801194189 Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian
1900 GMT 8 Jan 89

[Text] Reis Malile, minister of foreign affairs of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania, who is taking part in the international conference on the banning of chemical weapons being held in Paris, had separate meetings with Karolos Papoulias, Greek foreign minister; Mesut Yilmaz, Turkish foreign minister; and Petur Mladenov, Bulgarian foreign minister, at which he spoke about the development of bilateral relations and further strengthening Balkan cooperation and understanding in the interest of good neighborliness, peace, and security in our region.

He also met Giulio Andreotti, the Italian foreign minister. On this occasion, the two foreign ministers exchanged views on bilateral relations, as well as on various aspects of the international conference on the banning of chemical weapons.

On his way to Paris, Reis Malile, the Albanian foreign minister, who passed through Budapest airport, met with Peter Varkonyi, the Hungarian foreign minister. At this short meeting, they examined relations between our two countries, and exchanged views on certain aspects of the present international situation.

Olechowski Gives Speech

LD0701222589 Warsaw PAP in English
2116 GMT 7 Jan 89

[Text] Paris, Jan. 7—The Soviet-U.S. Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate and Shorter Range Nuclear Weapons has convincingly proved that the real disarmament can be reached if only the interested states display the necessary political willingness, Foreign Minister Tadeusz Olechowski told a conference of states-parties to the Geneva Protocol of 1925 and other interested states (on chemical weapons ban) on Paris today. Minister Olechowski also heads the Polish delegation to the conference.

The disarmament decisions, recently presented by Mikhail Gorbachev on the forum of the U.N. General Assembly, have provided unprecedented possibilities to make a breakthrough also in the field of conventional disarmament, and they also encourage the final elimination of the whole class of mass destruction arms, the chemical weapons.

Work on a respective convention on a total and effective ban on the development, production, and stockpiling of chemical weapons, as well as on the destruction of its reserves, conducted on the forum of the Geneva disarmament conference, have entered the decisive phase. The course of the work and the all-round exchange of views on the latest, 43rd session of the U.N. General Assembly clearly show that a new, strong political impulse is needed to finalise them. We voice the strong conviction that the present conference should and can serve this purpose.

There are favourable premises for this, and first of all there is political willingness of the entire international community shown by the U.N. General Assembly in the form of the three resolutions concerning the chemical weapons, and a vast response to the initiative of convening this conference.

Poland's interest in a possibly swift achievement of total elimination of chemical weapons comes from the basic principles of her foreign policy, Minister Olechowski went on. Poland has made a significant contribution to the preparation of the ban formula, comprised by the Geneva Protocol, which covers not only chemical but also bacteriological weapons. Our country was among the first signatories to the Geneva Protocol of 1925. As we have frequently declared, Poland has never manufactured chemical weapons and never possessed it. We have never intended or intend now to possess it.

Poland is decisively against the production and use of chemical weapons. We are also against any acts of aggression of one state against another which run counter to the norms of the international law and the United Nations Charter, Olechowski said.

We expect that our conference—in an atmosphere of constructive cooperation and mutual understanding—will strengthen the effectiveness of the ban on using chemical weapons and, first of all, will accelerate its complete elimination, Olechowski said assuring the conference that the Polish delegation would do all it can to help the conference achieve all its goals.

Olechowski Meets Counterparts

LD0801180989 Warsaw PAP in English
1713 GMT 8 Jan 89

[By PAP Correspondent Robert Bielecki]

[Text] Paris, Jan. 8—The chairman of the Polish delegation to the conference of banning chemical weapons, Polish Foreign Minister Tadeusz Olechowski met here today with Iranian Minister of Foreign Affairs 'Ali Akbar Velayati.

The two positively assessed the state of Polish-Iranian relations and expressed a conviction that a visit of the Iranian Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi to Poland expected to take place in the near future would be a significant impulse for a futher development of cooperation of the two countries in various fields, and above all in economic contacts.

They exchanged views on the determinants and prospects of a political settlements of the Iraqi-Iranian conflict on the basis of Resolution 598 of the U.N. Security Council, and also views on the course of the Paris conference on banning chemical weapons. The two voiced a conviction that it would accelerate the signing of a convention on a complete ban on chemical weapons.

Also today, Tadeusz Olechowski had a talk with representative of the Vatican, secretary of the Council for the Public Affairs of the Church Archbiship Angelo Sodano. The talk focused on issues of common interest, and especially ones related to the process of full normalization of relations between Poland and the Holy See.

U.S. Downing of Libyan Aircraft Condemned

AU0601134289 Tirana ATA in English 0950 GMT 6 Jan 89

[Text] Tirana, January 6 (ATA)—The world was indignated when it learned of the act of aggression of the American imperialists against Libya, who by encroaching all the known international norms and laws attacked and shot down two Libyan aircraft on the Mediterranean, the commentator Arben Karapici writes in the newspaper ZERI I POPULLIT.

The latest American military act against Libya is so grave and shows that the United States of America are going on following a dangerous road which leads to a blind alley. The pretexts and justifications are most various, but the goal and the means used are the same. Over the barbarous bombardment of April 1986 over Tripoli and Banghazi, the U.S. imperialists brought as a pretext the so-called struggle against terrorism. Now, we are served the pretext that the Libyan pharmaceutical plant in Al-Rabitah, south of Tripoli, is allegedly a plant for the production of chemical weapons. This is the most banal and brutal casus belli.

In complete opposition with all the known norms and laws conditioning the present international relations, the American air pirate-like operation against Libya is an act inspired by the delirium of unfrenzied megalomania of a superpower that the United States of America nurtures toward the smaller sovereign peoples and countries.

The new year 1989 started with a brutal attack of America against the sovereign rights of the people of Libya and a grave and dangerous escalation of the American acts which heighten even more the tension in all the Mediterranean region, in the Middle East and throughout the world.

Such actions of aggression and so flagrant interference in the internal affairs of the other countries attract ever more the attention of the peoples to be more vigilant toward the more dangerous course the policy of superpowers may assume in the region of the Mediterranean. The Albanian people denounce powerfully this new aggressive act of the American imperialists, the newspaper writes in conclusion.

Foreign Minister Malile Departs for Paris 6 Jan

AU0601195789 Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian 1900 GMT 6 Jan 89

[Text] A delegation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania, led by Minister of Foreign Affairs Reis Malile, left today for Paris, where it will attend an international conference to ban chemical weapons, which will be held from 7 to 11 January 1989.

The delegation was seen off at Rinas Airport by Farudin Hoxha, minister attached to the Council of Ministers, and Muhamet Kapllani, deputy minister of foreign affairs. Philippe Legrain, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Republic of France in Tirana, was also present.

Gjyzari Attends Cuban Embassy Reception

AU0601195989 Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian 1900 GMT 6 Jan 89

[Text] On the occasion of Cuba's National Day, Julio Cancio, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Republic of Cuba in the People's Socialist Republic of Albania, today hosted a reception on the embassy premises.

The reception was attended by Niko Gjyzari, chairman of the State Planning Commission; Shane Korbeci, minister of foreign trade; Sokrat Plaka, deputy minister of foreign affairs; Leandro Zoto, chairman of the Tirana District People's Council Executive Committee, and other guests, including heads and officials of foreign diplomatic missions accredited in Tirana.

Alia, Carcani Greet Cambodian Leaders

AU0601195889 Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian 1900 GMT 6 Jan 89

[Text] Comrade Ramiz Alia, AWP Central Committee first secretary and chairman of the Presidium of the People's Assembly of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania, and Adil Carcani, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania, have sent the following telegram of congratulations to Heng Samrin, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party and chairman of the Council of State of the People's Republic of Kampuchea; and Hun Sen, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Kampuchea:

The National Day of the Cambodian people gives us the pleasant opportunity, in the name of the Albanian people, the AWP Central Committee, the Presidium of the People's Assembly, the Council of Ministers of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania, as well as personally, to convey to you and to the Cambodian people our greetings and cordial wishes.

The Albanian people, who nurture sentiments of friendship toward the Cambodian people, have followed with sympathy and have always supported their just struggle against the imperialist powers and their lackeys in order to gain and consolidate their freedom and independence, as well as their efforts for the country's development and progress in accordance with their aspirations and wishes.

Availing ourselves of this opportunity, we express the belief that the relations of friendship that exist between our two peoples and countries will be further developed and strengthened in our mutual interest.

Ministry Issues Statement on Libyan Incident

AU0601192489 Sofia BTA in English 1836 GMT 6 Jan 89

[Text] Sofia, January 6 (BTA)—Mr Ivan Ganev, deputy minister of foreign affairs, received a group of ambassadors of the Arab countries headed by the doyen of the diplomatic corps, Mr Taha al-Khayrat, ambassador of the Syrian Arab Republic. They handed a declaration of the Arab embassies accredited in Sofia condemning the incident with the downing of the Libyan planes over the Mediterranean and calling for denouncing of this military act of the United States.

On this occasion it was stated by the Bulgarian side:

The downing of the Libyan planes by the U.S. Navy forces in the region of the Mediterranean, where the interests of so many states are intertwined, creates new obstacles before the efforts for regulation of the hot beds of tension.

Regardless of the explanation that the planes had been downed "in response to a hostile threat" against a formation of U.S. military ships, which sounds rather unconvincing, this incident cannot be assessed in any other way but as an act against one independent and sovereign state, which should be condemned by the international public.

The Bulgarian public is seriously concerned by this military action, all the more that it happened only a few days after threats for a military strike against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, made by some U.S. representatives under the pretext that a plant for chemical weapons is being built in Libya. These actions and threats are in flagrant contradiction with the strengthening of the positions of the spirit of the new political thinking in the international relations, with the desire for settlement of all disputed issues between the states through dialogue and other political means.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Bulgarian public express hope that political reason will prevail and there will not be, under whatever pretext, new escalation of the tension.

Zhivkov Sends Message to Chemical Arms Conference

AU0601193089 Sofia BTA in English 1847 GMT 6 Jan 89

[Text] Sofia, January 6 (BTA)—State Council President Mr Todor Zhivkov has sent a message to the chairman of the conference of the member-states of the 1925 Geneva Protocol and other interested states.

The Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the wide Bulgarian public see the forum in Paris as a proof of the resoluteness of the international community never to permit again the use of chemical weapons, reads the message.

It points out that the world is on the threshold of the resolution of an unique in content and scale task—on a contract base to liquidate physically an entire class of mass destruction weapons—the chemical ones—and to eliminate it from use for ever. This task is worthy for the requirements of our complicated and responsible time, it is in unison with the requirements of the new political thinking in the nuclear century. The liquidation of the chemical weapons would be a considerable contribution in the noble striving of mankind for a world without weapons and violence. It will relieve considerable resources and will contribute really for the transition from an economy of armament to economy of disarmament.

The People's Republic of Bulgaria, which has worked for many years insistently and consistently for the cause of chemical disarmament in the conference on disarmament, as well as in the framework of the U.N., will continue to be active and to give its contribution to this important sphere of international relations. In the future our country will continue to make efforts for the realization of the initiative for the turning of the Balkans into a zone free of chemical weapons, which we view as a step toward increasing of confidence in the Balkans and Europe and toward a resolution of the problem with this weapon in a global scale.

Let me express conviction that your forum will cooperate to the strengthening of the international legal regime on the banning of chemical weapons and will be a valuable contribution to the conclusion, as soon as possible, of an international convention banning the development, production and piling of chemical weapons and for elimination of the stock-piles of them, reads the message.

Mladenov Leaves for Conference

AU0601133389 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 0900 GMT 6 Jan 89

[Text] Foreign Minister Petur Mladenov departed for France today. He will take part in the international conference on chemical weapons that opens in Paris tomorrow.

The party that saw him off at Sofia airport included deputy ministers of foreign affairs and Bertrand de Guilhem de Lataillade, the French ambassador to Bulgaria.

Danish Embassies in Bulgaria, Romania Downgraded

PM0501141389 Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 24 Dec 88 p 5

["Micha-" report: "Bureaus Instead of Embassies"]

[Text] Denmark's embassies in Romania and Bulgaria will be closed from 1 January. They will be replaced by so-called trade bureaus to be set up in Bucharest and Sofia, the Foreign Ministry announced last night.

The bureaus will be headed by locals—in Bucharest by Doina Dimitrescu, who has been with the embassy since 1972, and in Sofia by Rima Mirska.

In the future visas for Denmark will be issued by the Swedish embassies in the two capitals. At the diplomatic level Denmark's Belgrade Ambassador Hans Jespersen will continue to protect Danish interests in Romania. Athens Ambassador Skjold Mellbin will be given additional accreditation to Sofia.

Shortly after the closure of the Sofia embassy, Prime Minister Poul Schluter and Environment Minister Lone Dybkjaer will actually be visiting Bulgaria.

Khristov Meets Cambodia's Heng Samrin
AU0701150489 Sofia BTA in English 1334 GMT 7 Jan 89

[Text] Phnom Penh, January 7 (BTA corr.)—The Kampuchean leaders received Bulgarian government and party delegation headed by Mr Emil Khristov, secretary of the CC of the BCP.

Mr Emil Khristov expressed Bulgaria's support for the policy of national reconciliation led by the People's Republic of Kampuchea, to the initiatives oriented toward finding of just and durable political resolution of the Kampuchean conflict.

Mr Heng Samrin, secretary general of the KPRP and president of the State Council, expressed the deep gratitude of the KPRP and of the Kampuchean people for the assistance and support rendered by Bulgaria. He stressed the importance of the Kampuchean-Vietnamese proposal for withdrawal of all Vietnamese armies in a shortened period in the framework of the political resolution which removes the Pol Pot threat and guarantees the right of the Kampuchean people to self-determination. Mr Heng Samrin expressed complete support for Bulgaria's initiative for the turning of the Balkans into a zone free of chemical and nuclear weapons.

Officials Attend Cambodian National Day Reception
AU0501211689 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 2000 GMT 5 Jan 89

[Text] The people of Cambodia are celebrating their national day. The People's Republic of Kampuchea was proclaimed 10 years ago, on 7 January.

On the occasion of this festive day, (?Chim Sun), charge d'affaires ad interim of the People's Republic Kampuchea in our country, gave a reception at the Sofia VIP Hotel.

Comrades Dimitur Stoyanov, Petko Danchev, and Dimitur Stanishev attended the reception, coming to express their admiration for the successes achieved by the people of Cambodia in their socioeconomic and cultural rebirth.

The reception was also attended by deputy ministers of foreign affairs, representatives of sociopolitical organizations, economic managers, many artists, and cultural figures.

Cuban Envoy Gives National Day Reception
AU0601205389 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 2000 GMT 6 Jan 89

[Text] Manuel Perez Hernandez, the Cuban ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Bulgaria, gave a reception this evening in the Grand Hotel Sofia to mark Cuba's National Day.

The reception, on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the victory of the Cuban revolution, was attended by Comrades Georgi Atanasov, Yordan Yotov, Milko Balev, Andrey Lukanov, and Dimitur Stanishev, as well as by leading public figures, economic leaders, cultural figures, and chiefs and members of the diplomatic missions accredited to Bulgaria.

Relations With Turkey, 'Pan-Turkism' Analyzed
AU0501204189 Sofia OTECHESTVEN FRONTin Bulgarian 4 Jan 89 pp 1,3

[Martin Stoyanov article: "Political Will and Realism Are Needed for Progress To Be Achieved"]

[Text] An important political document was signed on 23 February 1988 in Belgrade between the Governments of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Republic of Turkey. This is a protocol which creates objective prerequisites and a mechanism of dialogue aimed at the normalization of bilateral relations between the two countries. The goals jointly determined in the protocol reflect the spirit of the new political thinking and the two governments' resolve to develop relations of friendship and cooperation on the basis of the principles of equal rights, mutual respect, and noninterference in each other's domestic affairs.

According to the protocol it was agreed to establish mixed working groups on political and economic questions with clearly defined goals: The political group is supposed to search for solutions to pending problems in bilateral relations, and the group dealing with economic issues is expected to map out specific measures for accelerating cooperation in the sectors of the economy, trade, tourism, technology, transportation, communications, and culture.

It is envisaged that the two groups should operate on a parallel basis. It was also agreed that the two countries' foreign ministers should exchange visits, review the activities of the working groups, and give them the necessary instructions. Prolonged, complicated, political, and diplomatic negotiations preceeded the achievement of these agreements; therefore the two ministers expressed their high appreciation for the bilateral political document signed in Belgrade.

Petur Mladenov, minister of foreign affairs of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, declared: "The Bulgarian side is firmly resolved to devote constructive efforts to the implementation of the agreements laid down in the protocol in order to create favorable conditions for the development of good-neighborly and friendly relations between the Bulgarian and Turkish peoples, between Bulgaria and Turkey."

A. Mesut Yilmaz, minister of foreign affairs of Turkey, expressed similar views: "We on the Turkish side positively evaluate the signing of this document and are willing to contribute to its implementation in a constructive spirit. I hope that the new stage of development in our relations, which is now beginning, will be useful to both our peoples."

The Belgrade protocol signed between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Republic of Turkey was welcomed by both the Balkan and the world public. Its signing played an important role in the proceedings of the Belgrade foreign affairs ministers' meeting and in the general process of intensifying Balkan cooperation.

Loyal to the agreements achieved, our country did and is doing everything within its power in order to promote the total implementation of the protocol. Sessions of the mixed working groups took place during the exchange of mutual visits. They discussed and adopted an extensive agenda for a useful dialogue. The agenda included questions dealing with measures in connection with improving mutual confidence and the atmosphere between the two countries, questions devoted to the principles of friendship and good neighborly relations, humanitarian issues, questions related to cooperation between mass media, problems connected with the border along the Rezovska River and with determining the limits of the two countries' territorial waters in the Black Sea, the struggle against terrorism and against smuggling weapons and drugs, questions related to the improvement of consular services, questions pertaining to the solution of mutual financial and property claims, and other issues.

As for the economic sphere, a wide range of problems was submitted for discussion, the solution of which should contribute to the expansion of bilateral trade relations. Mutual interest is emerging in regard to cooperation in the fields of mining, chemical industry, ship building, metal processing, the production of agricultural machines, tourism, and other fields. Issues related to environmental protection and so forth were discussed as well.

Acting in the spirit of the aforementioned protocol, our country adopted a series of measures for facilitating the transit flow of Turkish citizens and goods through our country (2 million passengers are passing through Bulgaria annually, as a matter of fact). The construction of the international highway to the Turkish border continues, and new rest areas have been built. The system of processing the documents of transit passengers at traffic control checkpoints is being further improved.

The fact that the Bulgarian Government has authorized Turkish aircraft—including special and military aircraft—to fly over Bulgarian territory should also be regarded as an expression of goodwill and good-neighborly relations.

It is sufficient to enumerate the aforementioned questions and to describe our approach to bilateral dialogue in order to demonstrate the immense scope and impact of the bilateral protocol signed in Belgrade.

This wide range of problems represents the very essence and core of the Belgrade protocol. Loyal to its comprehensive approach in interpreting the protocol and faithful to its own commitment, the People's Republic of Bulgaria submitted a whole "package" of important political projects and economic initiatives, and accomplished steps in the humanitarian sector which are dictated by one wish only: by proceeding step by step to fully implement all agreements. As far as we could understand from interviews with Bulgarian officials, several draft projects, such as a draft memorandum on confidence and security measures; a draft declaration on good-neighborly relations, friendship, and cooperation; measures on cooperation dealing with questions of human rights and humanitarian issues; and measures on the development of cooperation in the sphere of mass media were submitted to the Turkish side. These drafts reflect the spirit of the Helsinki Final Act and are in conformity with the UN Charter, as well with International Law. Thus for example, the draft on a memorandum on confidence and security measures proposes that the two sides should neither encourage nor engage in actions directed against one of the two sides and should not permit their respective territories to be used for such goals. The draft memorandum further provides that the two sides should exchange information on their respective, national military doctrines. Exchanges of visits between the two countries' chiefs of staffs are envisaged as well.... The common border between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Republic of Turkey, which is part of the line of contact [suprikosnovenie] between the Warsaw Pact Organization and NATO, should become a zone of mutual confidence. (A series of practical steps in the spirit of the Stockholm Conference on Confidence-Building Measures and Security and Disarmament in Europe are envisaged in this respect).

An entire complex of principles and trends for mutually advantageous cooperation in all political, economic, and scientific spheres is also contained in the draft declaration on good-neighborly relations, friendship, and cooperation. The draft declaration proposes that the two sides confirm that the observance and effective application of human rights and basic freedoms are an essential factor in consolidating international peace and security in developing friendly relations and cooperation between the two countries. The draft declaration makes provision for the two countries' commitment to mutually encourage respect for human rights, regardless of the individual's race, sex, language, or religion by observing the generally accepted international rules in this respect.

The aforementioned draft contains numerous ideas connected with the consolidation of economic and scientific-technical cooperation on a lasting basis in branches, such as the power supply, transportation, communications, and agriculture branches. It also proposes that the two sides grant each other the status of most favorite nation and so forth.

In the spirit of the protocol signed in Belgrade, the competent Bulgarian authorities have already examined and favorably resolved numerous humanitarian cases of abandoned children and aged parents. All petitions for reunification of separated families are seriously discussed and dealt with in a responsible way. These activities are being pursued further.

The Bulgarian side showed understanding for the request of the Turkish Olympic Committee to permit the well-known Bulgarian weight-lifter Naum Shalamanov, who is now living in Turkey, to participate in the Olympic games of Seoul. This sportsman, trained in Bulgaria, achieved the greatest victory for Turkey: winning the Olympic gold medal. When his relatives asked for permission to visit Turkey, they were allowed to do so.

Numerous positive ideas were developed to improve mutual briefings and to overcome the existing disinformation as well as one-sided interpretation of events and facts so that the mass media of both countries may engage in a process of constructive dialogue.

Such is the Bulgarian approach to the bilateral protocol that was signed in Belgrade. This attitude, however, is in sharp contrast with the destructive line of policy adopted by certain circles in Turkey immediately following the Belgrade meeting. Over several months the protocol has been attacked as an "erroneous step of Turkish diplomacy" and was recently even described as "stillborn." Journalists and politicians are trying to distort and tear apart the political, economic, and humanitarian aspects of the Belgrade protocol, which all belong together as component parts of one and the same document. Without any reason whatsoever, preliminary conditions have been imposed on the People's Republic of Bulgaria for the further pursuit of bilateral dialogue. Our country's extensive initiatives, which we described above, are either rejected or are linked to the settlement of two problems which are not and cannot be the subjects of a bilateral dialogue: the recognition of a so-called "Turkish minority" in Bulgaria and its right of emigration to Turkey. Most of the counter-"documents" submitted by the Turkish side in the working commissions exude the stale smell of pan-Turkism and are models of an unrealistic, expansionist political line.

Anyone who is familiar with the history of Bulgarian-Turkish relations knows that no bilateral political document whatsoever has acknowledged the existence of a Turkish minority in Bulgaria. Such recognition does not appear in the most recent protocol signed on 32 February 1988 in Belgrade, either. References to the Neuilly Treaty and to other multilateral and bilateral documents, which the Turkish press and diplomacy frequently try to exploit in seeking support for their cause in the world and at international forums, are also deprived of all political and legal grounds. Such unfounded arguments are evidently intended for people who are not sufficiently acquainted with the history of bilateral relations between Bulgaria and Turkey. For certain politicians in our neighbor country, however, the notorious postulate that "a lie repeated often enough becomes true" still seems to be valid.

As a result of this, the lie is still being repeated. Carried away by pan-Turkish chauvinism, certain Turkish journalists, often supported by political demagogues trying to divert the Turkish people's attention from their unenviable fate, are lightheartedly destroying the successes achieved with great efforts, with political goodwill, and with mutual compromises by the protocol signed in Belgrade and in the ensuing discussions held by the bilateral working groups. If the writings of the Turkish press in search of sensation could be passed over in silence (a silence to which the Bulgarian mass media, trying to contribute to a calm dialogue, have also subscribed), we cannot fail to notice certain statements made by official representatives in Turkey, who only 10 months ago welcomed the protocol, expressing their readiness to act in a constructive manner.

History bequeathed us the heavy burden of a controversial past. For as long as 5 centuries, the Ottoman Empire ruled over the Bulgarian territories with fire and sword. Nevertheless, thanks to the their lofty freedom-loving spirit and patriotism, the Bulgarian people preserved their nationality, their language, and culture. Only an insignificant minority of our people, subject to terror and assimilation, accepted the Muslim faith which is still professed by the remote descendants of this group of people. Let them practice their religion—no one is trying to prevent them from doing so! However, the fact that they practice the Islamic religion does not mean that these people are Turks.

The Turks left Bulgaria with their troops following the liberation and during the ensuing decades.

In 1968 the two countries signed an agreement on the reunification of separated family members from Bulgarian families who emigrated to Turkey prior to 1952. The implementation of this agreement was completed in 1978. At the end of an official visit paid by the head of state of the Republic of Turkey to our country in February 1982, a joint announcement was released for the press, in which the presidents of the two countries stated that the former agreements on mass emigration had been concluded, and that they had mutually agreed, for humanitarian reasons, to benevolently treat and resolve individual petitions for the reunification of separated families in Bulgaria and Turkey.

We believe that all things have been properly settled in this respect and that an end should be put to the affair! Nevertheless, certain forces in Turkey are further pursuing their speculations related to the so-called "Turkish minority" in our country. To those who would like to teach Bulgaria a lesson in humanitarian matters, I would recommend seeing what is happening in their own country to the progressive and democratic forces, to the Kurdish, Arab, and Greek minorities who are subjected to systematic oppression and genocide.

It is really a pity. It is very deplorable that gross pan-Turkism not only exists in Turkish journalism, but is encouraged by certain political and diplomatic circles in that country. Territorial and national claims of expansion from the Atlantic to the Urals are being voiced in Turkey today. There is hardly any other country in the world community today that so openly manifests its chauvinistic policy.

This unrealistic approach represents an obstacle to the comprehensive implementation of the protocol signed between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Republic of Turkey on 23 February 1988 in Belgrade.

Recent experience (including the development of relations between the great powers) shows that a solution of problems of mutual interest can only be achieved through a dialogue on the basis of equal rights, mutual respect, and noninterference in each other's domestic affairs, and on the basis of the mutual observance of existing realities, but not through propaganda campaigns promoting selfish interests.

The Bulgarian public expects such a constructive dialogue with Turkey—a dialogue that should conform with the characteristic features of the epoch in which we live today.

Demographic Data on Population Released

AU3012133788 Sofia BTA in English
1219 GMT 30 Dec 88

[Text] Sofia, December 30 (BTA)—If everybody in Bulgaria meets the new year where they live, then 66.2 per cent of the population will celebrate in towns and cities, the TRUD newspaper observes. The paper offers a lot of figures without much comment—just strokes of the statistical profile of Bulgaria on the eve of 1989.

With a territory of 110,993.6 square metres [figure as received], Bulgaria is 111-placed in the world, and based on the number of her population it ranks 66th. The Bulgarians are not 9 million yet, although from January to October 98,124 children were born—50,445 boys and 47,679 girls. There were 52,776 marriages but, on the other hand, 9,637 divorces ....

According to the latest census taken in 1985, the population of Bulgaria is 8 million 949 thousand, the women being 4 million 516 thousand. Fifty per cent of all Bulgarians work. Fifty five per cent of the labour force are workers (the increase is 0.2 per cent compared to 1987), 18.1 per cent are agricultural workers (there is a decrease of 0.5 per cent compared to 1987), the intelligentsia and the employees account for 26.6 per cent (an increase of 0.3 per cent). Thirty eight in a thousand Bulgarians have higher education.

In 1988 210 thousand new TV sets, 270 thousand stoves, 160 thousand washing machines, 165 thousand refrigerators and 46.5 million pairs of shoes were bought in Bulgaria. The Bulgarians consume 30 thousand tons of meat per month, according to statistical data released by the company that sells it.

In conclusion TRUD reminds of an impressive "record" set in 1988—in Sofia a 97-year-old man married a woman of 91.

Comment on Semtex Link in Pan Am Crash

Foreign Media's Claims Refuted

LD0501220789 Prague International Service in English 1900 GMT 5 Jan 89

[Text] The wide international effort to track down the terrorists responsible for the mid air explosion of the Pan American Boeing 747 over Scotland last December continues and Czechoslovakia is not standing aside from this activity, or as some West German mass media insinuate is unwilling to cooperate. Recently the Austrian daily WIENER ZEITUNG reported that pilots were demanding that Czechoslovak airliners be barred from foreign airports until, allegedly, Prague agrees to cooperate in fighting air terrorism.

A Czechoslovak foreign ministry official today firmly denied allegations that Czechoslovakia had refused to cooperate in solving the case and noted that as soon as allegations emerged that the explosive used might have been of the Czech make Semtex, Czechoslovakia had responded by offering to send specialists to Great Britain. Czechoslovakia is prepared to do its utmost in helping to track down the offenders, the foreign ministry official said. But we think that slander against the Czechoslovak state is not going to help the investigation.

Responsibility Denied

AU0901143189 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 5 Jan 89 p 7

[Jan Kovarik commentary: "On the Tragedy Over Scotland"]

[Text] The crash of the American Pan Am airliner over the Scottish town of Lockerbie in December last year claimed 270 victims. It is the subject of intensive investigations by many experts and of talks between government and security agencies in Great Britain, the FRG, and the United States, but in other states as well. It has been proven that the tragedy was set off deliberately, by a person or several persons with terrorist motives. Regardless of whether the revenge was personal or political, there is only one possible conclusion—we bore witness to an act of terrorism of the grossest kind. The international public and the governments of many states, including our public and the Czechoslovak Government, have resolutely condemned this terrorist act.

A formerly unidentified explosive was used in this terrorist act, which was brought into the aircraft, evidently owing to the gross negligence of the airport personnel, either at Frankfurt am Main, the point of departure, or at London, from where the plane departed for the United States on the night of 21 December, via Scotland. Experts estimate that judging by the force of the explosion, about 13.5 kg of explosives were used, possibly including a so-called double primer, consisting of a barometric device and an electronic igniter that sets off the explosion once a certain altitude is reached.

The perpetrator of the act has not yet been identified, although, in search of dubious popularity, some groups have claimed it. Sooner or later, however, the true culprit or perpetrator will be tracked down, convicted, and deservedly punished.

Specialists in the FRG and Great Britain are looking for gaps in the security system—it has transpired, for instance, that the aircraft carried bags with American mail that had not been checked by West German authorities. Agencies in both the FRG and Great Britain are "hot on the trail" of all possible assassins, with U.S. participation. At any rate, there is one undeniable lesson that arises from the tragedy over Scotland—security in air travel requires exceedingly reliable work by the entire airport personnel, be it at the port of departure or at stopover airports.

Terrorism has no place in any human society. One can neither gain sympathies nor achieve any political results by employing terror against innocent people. This is also the position of Czechoslovakia; in the past, Czechoslovak citizens have more than once become the target of acts of air piracy, whose perpetrators counted on the indulgence of Western authorities in assessing their deeds. This is why we categorically condemn all acts, forms, and methods of terrorism and consistently fulfill our international obligations, as the spokesman for the CSSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs declared toward the end of last year.

Tendentious conjectures have now appeared in the British, American, and West German press, according to which the terrorists used "Semtex," an industrial explosive manufactured in Czechoslovakia, for the explosion on board the Boeing 747. Incidentally, the spokesman for the Czechoslovak Ministry of Foreign Affairs has already responded to these conjectures; let us recall his statement that Czechoslovakia has never supplied and does not supply explosives to terrorist organizations. He also said that our government is ready to send experts to give the appropriate expert opinion if this would help to identify the explosive used.

The contention of the Austrian newspaper WIENER ZEITUNG, published on Wednesday [4 January], alleging that "pilots demand" that Czechoslovak airplanes not be allowed to land at Western airports "until Prague cooperates in the struggle against air terrorism" therefore sounds incredible and like blackmail in this connection. It is reminiscent of an attempt to break into an open door.

Combating terrorism, including the hijacking of airplanes, requires united and uncompromising action by all states, the application of the same yardstick, mutual confidence, and a readiness to take action at the right time. Czechoslovakia has always belonged to those countries that are guided by these principles, and it will also act in this spirit in the future.

UK Charge Discusses Crash

LD0601174689 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1700 GMT 6 Jan 89

[Text] In connection with the anti-Czechoslovak campaign, based on the groundless statement that the recent Pan Am crash in Scotland was the result of the use of Czechoslovak-made Semtex explosive, UK Charge John Malcolm Macgregor was received today at the Foreign Ministry.

It was again stressed to him that Czechoslovakia unequivocally opposes all forms of terrorism and has never supplied arms, explosives, or other materials to any terrorist organization.

Regarding our proposal to send experts who would help on the spot to identify the explosives which caused the tragedy, John Malcolm Macgregor said that the British Government has accepted this offer. A group of Czechoslovak experts will leave for Britain in the next few days.

The British representative was also again urged to help to clarify the suspicious circumstances of the disappearance of Czechoslovak diplomat Vlastimil Ludvik from India. The diplomat is on British territory, according to an announcement by the British Foreign Ministry.

Further Report

LD0701082889 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 0800 GMT 7 Jan 89

[Text] Asked by a reader about the Czechoslovak explosive Semtex, today's RUDE PRAVO says the following: This explosive, manufactured at Semtin, is in the West being connected with the crash of the Pan Am plane in southeast Scotland. It is an industrial explosive used in various types of ground work. Czechoslovakia is not the only country which uses, produces, and exports explosives of this kind. Exporters of explosives also include some NATO countries and others. RUDE PRAVO says that the production of industrial explosives is not contradictory to our effort in the struggle for peace and that Czechoslovakia did not supply explosives to any terrorist organizations in the world, is not supplying them, and will never do so. The paper also says that Czechoslovak experts are ready to help in identifying the explosive which destroyed the U.S. plane.

Jakes Concludes Nicaragua, Cuba Tour

Arrives in Managua

LD0601225289 Prague Television Service in Czech 2100 GMT 6 Jan 89

[From the "24 Hours" program]

[Excerpts] We now bring you a report on the visit by Comrade Milos Jakes to the Nicaraguan capital. We apologize for the poor sound quality:

[Unidentified correspondent] Comrade Milos Jakes, CPCZ Central Committee general secretary, shortly after 0900 local time began his official friendly visit to Nicaragua. Milos Jakes is accompanied by Comrades Stepan, Hanus, Stefanak, Toman, and Julis. Milos Jakes is the highest party representative of the European socialist countries to ever visit Nicaragua. Large crowds of Managua residents provided a warm atmosphere at the local airport to welcome the special Czechoslovak guest. Comrade Milos Jakes and his entourage were welcomed on Nicaraguan soil at the aircraft steps by President Daniel Ortega. Pioneers then presented the Czechoslovak guests with their scarves and flowers. Accompanied by Daniel Ortega, Milos Jakes then inspected the guard which was there to welcome him. The CPCZ Central Committee general secretary was also greeted by members of the national leadership of the Sandinist National Liberation Front. Both representatives then made short speeches while being warmly greeted by the inhabitants of Managua.

Daniel Ortega expressed appreciation for the solidarity which the CPCZ and the Czechoslovak people have shown with the Sandinista revolution from the beginning and he praised the concrete help given by Czechoslovakia to the people of Nicaragua.

Then Milos Jakes in his short speech said:

[Begin Jakes recording] I thank you for your cordial welcome. I am very happy to find myself on the soil of [word indistinct] Nicaragua. We have come to express our solidarity with your just struggle, to speak with the leading representatives of your country, and exchange views on the international situation and the further development of our mutual relations. Long live free Nicaragua! Long live the Sandinist National Liberation Front! [end recording]

The cars then left Managua's Augusto Cesar Sandino Airport for the July Victory sugar processing plant. It is one of the largest sugar refineries in Central America and was built by Cuban construction workers. The whole site is a present from the Cuban people to liberated Nicaragua. [passage omitted] Comrade Milos Jakes was interested in the use of bagasse, which is sugar cane waste, for energy uses. Bagasse supplements the wood of fast growing eucalyptus trees in this area. As was clear in other parts of the refinery, the sugar season is over; therefore the CPCZ Central Committee general secretary was interested in the social welfare of the workers during the almost 6-month layoff period. The majority of the 1,800 employees goes on to other work, but within the framework of the same complex. [passage omitted]

During the whole visit to the plant Milos Jakes was accompanied by Daniel Ortega, Nicaraguan president and coordinator of the national leadership of the directorate of the National Liberation Front.

Comrades Jakes and Ortega, along with their entourages, then held their first working talks on the premises of the complex. Present on the Czechoslovak side were: Comrades Stepan, Hanus, Toman, and Julis. And on the Nicaraguan side: Henry Ruiz, Jaime Wheelock, Miguel d'Escoto, and other officials.

At the time of our satellite link from Managua for the "24 hours" program the visit by Milos Jakes, CPCZ Central Committee general secretary, to Nicaragua is continuing with a working meeting with the plenum of the national leadership of the Sandinist National Liberation Front. It is expected that in the evening Comrade Milos Jakes will receive a high-level Nicaraguan award.

Talks With Ortega

LD0701101489 Prague CTK in English 0844 GMT 7 Jan 89

[Text] Managua Jan 7 (CTK)—Czechoslovak Communist Party General Secretary Milos Jakes and members of his entourage held talks with President Daniel Ortega and other representatives of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] on Friday.

They stressed the great importance of the visit of the Czechoslovak Communist Party general secretary to Nicaragua, the first by a top-level representative of a socialist country after the victory of the Sandinist revolution ten years ago.

In frank discussions, Daniel Ortega informed the Czechoslovak guests of the political situation in the country and the struggle of the Nicaraugan people to preserve their revolutionary achievements.

The undeclared war is causing huge damage to Nicaragua, he said and mentioned specifically the complex situation, a crisis in the economy and the search for ways to eliminate it, especially to reduce inflation.

He explained the views of the Sandinist Front on the application of a system of political pluralism and mixed economy in the country and its consistent orientation at the non-aligned movement.

It was stressed during the talks that the situation in Nicaragua cannot be separated from the situation in Central America. Political negotiated solution is the basis for a settlement and attempts to isolate Nicaragua must be prevented. Milos Jakes expressed Czechoslovakia's support for Nicaragua's effort and initiatives aimed at a peaceful and just settlement in Central America.

It was made clear during the talks that the Nicaraguan people are very much interested in the developments in the socialist countries. It is necessary to improve knowledge about the processes taking place in these countries, which are no negation of socialism but which seek its further development on a higher level.

In this context Milos Jakes explained the aims and course of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia in the restructuring of society, economic reform and democratization of social life in Czechoslovakia.

The talks provided new impulses for the further extension of relations in all spheres. In the economy, for instance, there are possibilities to expand cooperation e.g. in the textile, leather and footwear industries.

The Czechoslovak side will seek the ways of helping to solve the complex economic situation.

The talks were held in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding.

Receives Award

LD0701174089 Prague CTK in English 1406 GMT 7 Jan 89

[Text] Managua Jan 7 (CTK correspondent)—A rally of the Nicaraguan public has taken place here to mark the current official friendly visit of Czechoslovak Communist Party General Secretary Milos Jakes to Nicaragua.

Milos Jakes received the highest Nicaraguan distinction, the Augusto Cesar Sandino Order at the meeting in Managua's Olof Palme congress palace.

In an address, President Daniel Ortega stressed Nicaragua's effort aimed at consolidating its revolutionary process and pointed out its close links with the struggle for peace being waged by the socialist countries.

He singled out in this context the Czechoslovak initiative seeking peaceful coexistence between the states of the Warsaw Treaty and NATO. The two countries' representatives had talked about the importance of peace and security for all nations, big and small, about the successes of socialism in the world which are irrevocable and about the successes of socialist revolution. These had been the impulses for the struggle of the Sandinista National Liberation Front, of the workers and peasants against capitalism and imperialism of the Somoza era, the Nicaraguan leader pointed out.

Milos Jakes expressed the conviction that despite present difficulties, the day will come when the brave people of independent Nicaragua will be able to fully devote themselves to peaceful construction and work to develop revolutionary achievements.

In the struggle for the implementation of these noble goals against armed counter-revolution and world imperialism's policy of blackmail you can rely on the support and internationalist solidarity of socialist Czechoslovakia, the general secretary pointed out.

He highly praised the policy of the Nicaraguan Government aimed at the consolidation of democratic achievements of the Sandinista revolution and its effort to ensure free life, human and civil rights for the people who have chosen their own independent road of development.

Milos Jakes appreciated Nicaragua's principled and constructive policy in international relations in close cooperation with the Contadora Group, its consistent fulfilment of the Guatemala documents, constructive talks with opposition forces and its readiness to resume direct talks with the United States, for the sake of a peaceful settlement in Central America.

Czechoslovakia will continue to support all efforts and initiatives aimed at a peaceful and just settlement in Central America and will make use of all international forums to support political settlement there, Milos Jakes stressed and highly praised in this context the flexible and politically foresighted approach of the Sandinista government to the latest development in the area.

Further on Award Speech

LD0701180289 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1600 GMT 7 Jan 89

[Excerpts] On the occasion of an official friendly visit by Milos Jakes, CPCZ Central Committee general secretary, a rally of representatives of the Nicaraguan public took place in the Olof Palme Convention Center in Managua.

At the rally, Milos Jakes received the highest Nicaraguan distinction: the Augusto Cesar Sandino Order. Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega and Milos Jakes addressed the meeting. [pasage omitted]

In his speech, Milos Jakes expressed thanks at being awarded the Augusto Cesar Sandino Order. He said this order represents appreciation for the work of the CPCZ and the Czechoslovak people for socialism, who jointly struggle to avert the danger of war and preserve peace. [passage omitted]

Milos Jakes recalled his talks with Daniel Ortega and said that the two sides had unequivocally concluded that there is a need to improve all-round bilateral cooperation, to introduce even greater dynamism into it, and make its contribution more effective in tackling questions of Nicaraguan economic development.

Milos Jakes then went on to speak about current development in CZechoslovakia. He said that in the interest of the further socialist development of Czechoslovakia, our society has taken the road of restructuring our economy and society itself, the road of democratization of all spheras of public life.

He went on to say that the purpose of this effort is to raise the living standards of our people. This can be achieved only through joint work and broad development of workers' initiative and creativity.

Speaking about foreign policy, Milos Jakes stated his full support for the peace initiatives of the Soviet Union, as expressed by Mikhail Gorbachev at the United Nations. He also noted the active efforts by Warsaw Treaty member states to develop the disarmament process and create conditions for tackling other key problems of humanity.

Milos Jakes also decisively condemned the continuation of an undeclared war against Nicaragua and interference in the internal affairs of other countries in Central and Latin America.

Meets Media at Conference

LD0801095389 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 0700 GMT 8 Jan 89

[Text] Nicaragua—Milos Jakes, general secratary of the CPCZ Central Committee, has ended his official friendly visit to the Republic of Nicaragua and left Managua by air for Havana.

At a press conference before his departure he said that his visit to Nicaragua fulfilled its aims. He expressed solidarity with the just struggle of the Nicaraguan people which is taking place on the principles of political pluralism and corresponds to the goals of all progressive forces in the country. Comrade Jakes stressed that Czechoslovakia fully supports his policy, which strives to remove tension and which aims for understanding and peace.

He stated that when discussing bilateral relations, in particular, possibilities for developing economic cooperation were evaluated. Comrade Milos Jakes stressed that good conditions exist for the development of Czechoslovak-Nicaragua cooperation, and it is in our interest to look for room for their growth.

More on News Conference

LD0801221689 Prague Television Service in Czech 1830 GMT 8 Jan 89

[Text] Milos Jakes held a news conference for Nicaraguan and Czechoslovak correspondents prior to his departure from Managua. He stated, among other things, that the visit's purpose was to demonstrate solidarity with the Nicaraguan people and with their just efforts to implement the progressive principles set out by the FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front] in conditions of political pluralism, while operating a multisector economy and pursuing a nonaligned policy. Together with our Nicaraguan friends we fully support the efforts to achieve better understanding and peaceful coexistence, to eliminate tension in the world, and to solve the problems of Central America through negotiations.

Replying to correspondents, Comrade Jakes went on to state that they had also discussed bilateral cooperation, particularly in the economic sphere, adding that new dynamism needs to be given to such development. We also spoke about socialist countries providing part of the capital for projects in Nicaragua and the possibilities of using cotton-, cocoa- and banana-growing, and other Nicaraguan products to enrich mutual trade, Comrade Jakes said.

During the news conference, we asked the Nicaraguan president for an interview. Asked his opinion of the importance of Comrade Jakes' visit, the Nicaraguan President pointed out that this was the first visit by a party leader from a Warsaw Pact member state and European socialist country in the 10 years since the revolution. Its purpose was to reaffirm existing solidarity and to discuss the further development of mutual relations. The importance of the visit is highlighted by the fact that it is taking place exactly at this significant time, when peace initiatives by both countries are being implemented both on the world and Central American scale. In addition to the political significance, he went on to stress, the visit also served to seek out possibilities for mutually advantageous economic and other cooperation.

Later in the interview, the Nicaraguan president rejected the Costa Rican president's proposal to postpone the Central American summit until after the inauguration of the new U.S. President because it would mean subjecting the timeframe for implementing the Esquipulas Accord, a timeframe which is already in great jeopardy, to U.S. interests. Central America, on the contrary, ought to coordinate its policy and then present that policy itself to the United States. In this context, Daniel Ortega went on to say that the Nicaraguan counterrevolution and the political right wing is trying to capitalize on the period prior to George Bush's inauguration to build up its position in the country and to undermine revolutionary Nicaragua's standing in the world, because as a military force it is no longer capable of overthrowing the revolution; the most it can do is cause it material harm.

Ortega Assesses Visit

LD0801193289 Prague CTK in English 1756 GMT 8 Jan 89

[Text] Managua Nov 8 (CTK Correspondent)—President Daniel Ortega has described this week's visit of Czechoslovak Communist Party General Secretary Milos Jakes to Nicaragua as historic.

Speaking to CTK he noted that it was the first visit by a Warsaw Treaty state's party general secretary to Nicaragua. "The visit also documents our policy seeking the strengthening of relations between the two states. It is all the more important that it has taken place at a time when Nicaragua is still facing american aggression while at the same time exerting efforts to achieve peace."

Commenting on Central American developments Daneil Ortega noted that Nicaragua and Guatemala have rejected the proposal of Costa Rican President Arias to postpone the meeting of Central American presidents scheduled for January 15-16 in San Salvador and El Salvador is also leaning to the original date. He rejected the argument that it is necessary to wait until the U.S. Administration has set forth its Central America policy. "The solution of Central American problems cannot depend on U.S. strategy for Central America. We must define the strategy ourselves", he added.

Daniel Ortega pointed out that Nicaragua continues its efforts to achieve peace in Central America and the aim of his planned visits to Venezuela and later Brazil is to help reinvigorate the work of the Contadora Group and the group in its support for the sake of a peaceful settlement of the Central American crisis.

Confers With Castro

LD0801082389 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 0800 GMT 8 Jan 89

[Text] Cuba: Milos Jakes, general secretary of the CPCZ Central COmmittee left Havana by air for home yesterday evening.

He made a short stop in the Cuban capital on his way from his official friendly visit to Nicaragua. Before departure he met with the leading Cuban representative Fidel Castro, who also saw him off at the airport.

Returns Home

LD0801141389 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1400 GMT 8 Jan 89

[Text] Milos Jakes, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, has returned to Prague from an official friendly visit to Cuba and Nicaragua. He had talks with the highest representatives of both countries about some international questions and the development of bilateral relations.

Resigned SFRY Government 'Regrouping Forces'

AU0401182789 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 3 Jan 89 p 7

[Julius Loerincz commentary in the "Word on the Events" column: "The Government Has No Magic Wand"]

[Excerpts] It was the last working day of 1988 and the Yugoslavs were thinking of welcoming the new year in the traditionally joyous, almost carnival manner, when they heard the unusual, but not totally unexpected news: the SFRY Federal Executive Council (i.e., the federal government) had resigned, as has its chairman, Branko Mikulic. This was the first time in the history of Socialist Yugoslavia that a government resigned prior to fulfilling its mandate as envisaged by the law. [passage omitted]

The event itself evokes justified interest and seems to be a small sensation, but in reality we cannot expect it to be quickly followed by revolutionary consequences in the country's development. In the same way that the Mikulic government had no magic wand to make all problems in the country vanish, particularly in its economic and social spheres, the government which is now beginning to take shape will also have no such wand. The Mikulic government obviously lacked sufficient energy; however, on several occasions the premier himself recalled that the FEC lacks sufficient authority to really "rule." It would be unjust to condemn it for all negative phenomena of the past and the present. Only a few days ago, B. Mikulic stated in an interview to the Zagreb paper MLADOST that some criticism of the government's activities is undoubtedly principled criticism, going to the roots of problems in the Yugoslav economy and thus helping the government's work. However, considerable criticism is based on partial ideological and economic interests, pontificating and giving ultimatum-like advice without offering other specific solutions or feasible ways out. It would seem that the Yugoslav experience is not an isolated phenomenon—our permanent Budapest editor writes about similar approaches by various alternative groups in Hungary, and the experience with the opposition forces in Poland is similar as well. B. Mikulic added that such criticism can be called destructive, an expression of resistance against the essential economic reform.

In this case, does the Yugoslav Government's resignation represent a retreat before such forces? Scarcely. It is rather a regrouping of forces, an act reviving the blood circulation in the federal government's veins and arteries. [passage omitted]

In other words, the government exchange is merely one step in the comprehensive program of overcoming the crisis, in the process of reforms for the sake of renewing, developing, and strengthening socialism. The line of three reforms—in the economy, in the political system, and in the party—continues to apply as set down by the LCY conference last year.

Charter 77 Claims Police Killed Driver

AU0901090089 Paris AFP in English 0209 GMT 9 Jan 89

[Text] Prague, Jan 9 (AFP)—Czechoslovak police beat up a driver so badly after a minor traffic offence that he died the next day, the Czechoslovak dissident movement Charter 77 said Sunday,

Josef Babjak, a 37-year-old farm engineer, father-of-two and card-carrying Communist, was stopped by police on December 22 for a driving offence.

Mr. Babjak told friends he was badly beaten up in police custody. He died the next day, and the autopsy revealed bleeding in the stomach, intestines and right kidney, as well as a heart defect.

Charter 77 called on the authorities to launch a thorough inquiry, saying the incident revealed the "impunity" enjoyed by Czechoslovak policemen.

Beno Named New Chairman of Group

AU0501091789 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 3 Jan 89 p 2

[CTK report in the "Brief Information" column]

[Text] Bohumil Urban, CSSR first deputy premier and chairman of the State Planning Commission, introduced Mikulas Beno into the post of chairman of the Material Reserves Administration yesterday [2 January].

New EXPRESS Chief Editor Announced

AU0401105889 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 30 Dec 88 p 2

[CTK report in the "Brief Information" column]

[Text] New EXPRESS Chief Editor— Genad Penkovsky has become the new chief editor of EXPRESS, a weekly covering current world events. He was formally presented by Igor Skorica, head of a CPSL Central Committee, in Bratislava yesterday [29 December]. At the same time, Igor Skorica thanked the earlier chief editor, Karol Hulman, who is retiring, for his work.

New Customs Regulations Seen as Counterproductive

AU0301153289 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 30 Dec 88 p 5

[Statement by "M. F., customs officer" in the "From Letters to the Editor" column]

[Text] In the Saturday 19 November issue of RUDE PRAVO, Comrade Haskovcova from the Federal Bureau of Statistics writes about the number of tourists coming to the CSSR. The conclusions from the bare statistical data are obvious—foreign visitors clearly outweigh Czechoslovaks traveling abroad. How do I view the situation? I am a member of the customs administration in a customs house at the border with the GDR. Our citizens, too, cross the border here for only one day (that is, for the purpose of shopping, and not for the purpose of tourism as they state in the customs declaration). They avail themselves of up to M170 in foreign exchange and have a chance to exchange an additional Kcs100 in a GDR bank. For all practical purposes, they therefore have M200 (Kcs600). GDR citizens, on the other hand, avail themselves of only Kcs60. This makes it clear who it is that travels to shop. I will not even discuss those Czechoslovak citizens who exchange foreign currency for a longer stay but return to the CSSR after a few hours in the GDR, claiming that they did not find accommodation. It goes without saying that they spend all their money; the regulations do not allow us to take any action against this.

Since 15 November [when the new customs regulations went into force], we have been very strict toward GDR citizens taking food and tropical and subtropical fruits out of our country. However, all during November tropical and subtropical fruits were practically unavailable in our district's shops, so GDR citizens [returning from Czechoslovakia] could not get them either. The ban on taking foodstuffs out of the country concerns, above all, assortments of Christmas-tree candies, other sweets, and dairy products, all things costing between Kcs20 and Kcs60, which rules out any speculative motives. It would be better for you not to know what we get to hear from tourists when we confiscate these things. Today no one can count the damage in the political and moral spheres caused by our strict compliance with the new customs regulations. Steps such as this one should be thought through very carefully in advance.

It is a different matter altogether when one person exports an inordinate amount of merchandise with speculative motives. What is to be said about Polish workers in our enterprises who have families at home but cannot take any money home, but only Czechoslovak goods. It is self-evident that they will take out what can be profitably sold in the Polish People's Republic!!! This is an absolutely clear case of profiteering. Yet there is nothing we, as customs officers, can do to prevent this. This also holds true for working people from Vietnam. The new regulations punish no one but tourists.

We are expanding possibilities for importing merchandise, particularly electronics, that is in short supply on our market. But who are the people who are importing this merchandise? They are relatives of emigrants who have left our country. They then sell at a profit everything they have brought from abroad, starting with foreign exchange and electronics and ending with cars. The so-called shadow economy emerges, another problem with which we are unable to cope. There is then another possibility to gain high unearned income, which RUDE PRAVO also writes about.

What are we to think of the new customs regulations? Countries that radically restrict exports are not well off economically. I hope that we are not that badly off! It is natural that goods coming from nonsocialist countries that had to be paid for in freely convertible currencies should be consumed by us at home. That is understandable. But 88 items whose export from the CSSR is forbidden or restricted—that is a bit too much (just committing them to one's memory is quite a job)! I find it hard to believe that all these items are so scarce on our market and that, at the same time, they are being exported on such a large scale from the CSSR that their export has to be restricted (color television sets, vacuum cleaners, wooden barrels, must gauges, and so forth).

The whole world treats income from tourism as the best way of generating national income, yet this measure will do nothing to increase the flow of tourists to Czechoslovakia. The price of every article contains a retail trade tax, which means revenue for the state coffers. And then we go and restrict everything. While I am on the subject of tourism—when, finally, will we do away with customs and foreign exchange declarations, when will the forms for issuing passports be simplified, when will the lengthy waiting time for the issuing of travel documents be eliminated (people often spend hours in line, first waiting for the application form, then with the filled-in application form, and then to pick up the document)? How much easier it is for GDR citizens to travel to our country. We still have a great deal to learn and to catch up on.

Salute to restructuring!

[signed] M. F., customs officer

Editorial note: The writer put his full name and address on his letter; it is the editorial office that gives his initials.

Substantial Decrease in Coal Reserves Noted

LD0201122889 Prague CTK in English 1046 GMT 2 Jan 89

[Text] Prague Jan 2 (CTK)—In spite of the orientation on the development of nuclear power industry and a greater use of gas fuels, coals remains one of the most important power industry resources in Czechoslovakia although its share is to be gradually reduced.

Czechoslovakia's coal reserves have substantially decreased as more than 5,000 million tonnes of coal and lignite have been produced since 1945. About 85 per cent of Czechoslovakia's overall coal production is accounted for by the most important producer—the Ostrava-Karvina coal mines in North Moravia. Coal reserves in this area should be used till about the end of the 21st Century. Coal is also produced by coal mines near Kladno, Central Bohemia, Plzen, West Bohemia and in the Rosice-Osalavany District in South Moravia. New mines are to be opened in the future century near Slany, Central Bohemia. The production of lignite, now concentrated in the Most and Sokolov coal districts in North Bohemia, is expected in the future also near Breclav, South Moravia and in South-West Slovakia.

Czechoslovakia's geological reserves of coal are estimated at about 12,400 million tonnes of coal and 14,000 million tonnes of lignite. By the year 2005, the production of lignite should drop to three quarters of the present level. Coal production should drop by about 15 per cent in the future twenty years.

Natural Gas Reservoir Nearly Finished

AU0301140289 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 30 Dec 88 p 1

[Josef Jirek article: "A Billion Korunas Investment Nearing Completion"]

[Summary] Breclav— The construction of an underground natural gas reservoir with the capacity of 700 million cubic meters of gas, the construction of which

began 3 years ago, is nearing completion. The reservoir, located near the village of Dolni Dunajovice in southern Moravia, is one of Czechoslovakia's largest.

Leaders' Public Appearances for 21-29 Dec

AU3012101488 [Editorial Report] Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech, Prague VECERNI PRAHA in Czech, Prague PRACE in Czech, Prague ZEMEDELSKE NOVINY in Czech, Bratislava VECERNIK in Slovak, and Bratislava ROLNICKE NOVINY in Slovak report from 22 to 28 December the following appearances of CSSR leaders (sourceline of each report given in parentheses):

Willy de Clercq, member of the Commission of European Communities and commissar for foreign relations and trade policy, was received by Milos Jakes and Gustav Husak on two separate occasions in Prague on 21 December. (RUDE PRAVO 22 Dec 88 p 1)

Vladimir Herman, Frantisek Pitra, and Karel Urbanek visited the township of Kyjov in the South Moravian region on 28 December. (ROLNICKE NOVINY 29 Dec 88 p 1)

Milos Jakes, CPCZ CC general secretary, paid a visit to and addressed a session of the Czech National Council in Prague on 21 December. (RUDE PRAVO 22 Dec 88 p 1)

Frantisek Hanus, CPCZ CC secretary, continued his visit of the Central Slovak region on 21 December. (RUDE PRAVO 22 Dec 88 p 2)

Alois Indra, CPCZ CC Presdium member, attended the constituent meeting of CPCZ CC's Legal Commission in Prague on 21 December. (RUDE PRAVO 22 Dec 88 p 2)

Jan Fojtik, Presidium member and secretary of the CPCZ CC, attended a meeting of ranking personnel of media and publishing houses in Prague on 28 December. (ROLNICKE NOVINY 29 Dec 88 p 1)

Ignac Janak, CPCZ CC Presidium member and first secretary of the CPSL CC, attended a meeting of the Slovak National Council in Bratislava on 21 December. (RUDE PRAVO 22 Dec 88 p 2)

Ivan Knotek, CPCZ CC Presidium member and Slovak premier, attended a working meeting in Bratislava on 20 December. (VECERNIK 20 Dec 88 p 1)

Frantisek Pitra, CPCZ CC Presidium member and Czech premier, attended a session of the Czech Government in Prague on 21 December. (RUDE PRAVO 22 Dec 88 p 2) He presented to J. Nikodym, Czech minister of finance, prices, and wages, the Order of Labor on the occasion of the latter's 50th birthday in Prague on 27 December. (RUDE PRAVO 28 Dec 88 p 2)

Miroslav Stepan, CPCZ CC Presidium member and first secretary of the Prague CPCZ City Committee, visited several enterprises in Prague on 24 December. (RUDE PRAVO 27 Dec 88 p 2)

Karel Urbanek, CPCZ CC Presidium member, attended the commissioning of a textile plant in Brno on 21 December. (ZEMEDELSKE NOVINY 22 Dec 88 p 1)

Miroslav Zavadil, CPCZ CC Presidium member and chairman of the Central Trade Union Council, paid a visit to his constituency in Brno on 20 December. (PRACE 21 Dec 88 p 1)

Jaromir Johanes, CSSR foreign minister, was among those present when CSSR President Gustav Husak received the new FRG ambassador, Hermann Huber, in connection with the presentation of the latter's credentials, in Prague on 21 December. (RUDE PRAVO 22 Dec 88 p 1) He received ambassadors of states bordering the CSSR in Prague on 22 December. (VECERNI PRAHA 23 Dec 88 p 1) He received SFRY Ambassador Dusan Rodic for a talk on the "present state and prospects" of the CSSR-SFRY relations, in Prague on 27 December. (RUDE PRAVO 28 Dec 88 p 1) He received Spanish Ambassador Jose Luis Dicento Ballester and Polish Ambassador Wlodzimerz Mokrzyszczak in Prague, date not given. (ROLNICKE NOVINY 29 Dec 88 p 1)

SED Group Visits FRG on DKP Invitation

LD0501211989 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1709 GMT 5 Jan 89

[Excerpt] Frankfurt/Main (ADN)—At the invitation of the DKP Party Executive a delegation from the SED Central Committee led by Hermann Axen Politburo member and Central Committee secretary, arrived on Thursday in Frankfurt/Main. It will take part in the Ninth DKP Congress which begins on Friday. The delegation also includes Central Committee Politburo member Werner Eberlein, first secretary of the SED Bezirk Organization in Magdeburg; Gunter Rettner, Central Committee member; and Hans-Georg Schuster, deputy department director in the SED Central Committee [passage omitted]

Attends 9th DKP Congress Opening

LD0601164989 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0903 GMT 6 Jan 89

[Text] Frankfurt/Main (ADN)—The 9th DKP Congress was opened by Kurt Bachmann, party Presidium member, at the congress hall in Frankfurt/Main on Friday [6 January]

The congress is being attended by over fifty communist and workers' parties as well as national liberation movements, including a delegation from the SED Central Committee led by Hermann Axen, Politburo member and secretary of the SED Central Committee.

Former Intelligence Chief Wolf Interviewed

AU0701170589 Hamburg DER SPIEGEL in German 2 Jan 89 pp 60-61

[Interview with Markus Johannes Wolf, former chief of the GDR Foreign Intelligence Collection Main Administration in the Ministry of State Security, who retired in 1987, by Urda Juergens in Moscow "during the week before Christmas": "I Would Like To Go To Stuttgart"]

[Text] DER SPIEGEL: Mr Wolf, since February 1987 there has been much speculation about your retirement. Officially, you retired at your own wish—allegedly for health reasons. Why did you really retire?

Wolf: I really retired at my own wish, but not for health reasons; I am healthy and feel well.

DER SPIEGEL: Then, what was the reason for your retirement?

Wolf: When my brother Konrad died in 1982 I was 59; in our country victims of Nazi persecution have the right to a pension as of the age of 60, and upon my brother's death my idea of preserving the experiences of my life, of life in our family, in some form began to intensify. Konrad had the idea for "Troika," which is an attempt to preserve the experiences of our lives in a story. Since then I have had the wish to put this idea, which he was not able to realize, into a book. This has taken some years.

SPIEGEL: And what is the retiree Wolf doing at present?

Wolf: I am very busy. In connection with my father's 100th birthday in 1988 there are a great number of obligations, many wishes. In our country, more than 140 institutions bear my father's name; and working on the book has claimed all my time.

DER SPIEGEL: "Troika" is to be simultaneously published by East Berlin's Aufbau publishing house and by Econ in Duesseldorf next March. Is this not unusual for a book by the former chief of GDR spies?

Wolf: I would like to ignore that about the chief of spies. The head of such an institution, which probably exists in all developed countries, is a man like everyone else, who has his own history and his own biography. Before the war, when I lived here in Moscow, I wanted to study aircraft construction. My party, the KPD at that time, considered it appropriate to send me to the radio. I was an editor at the Berlin Radio Station in Masurenallee, wrote commentaries and reports, also about the Nuremberg trial of war criminals in 1945-46—actually against my inclination; I think I have not inherited much from my father in this respect. Then, when the GDR was established, I spent 2 years at our country's diplomatic representation here in Moscow, which at that time was still called a diplomatic mission. I was first counselor and, as such, sometimes charge d'affaires when the ambassador was absent. Afterwards, again at the order of my party and my state, I did the job you mentioned.

DER SPIEGEL: What do you call this work, if not espionage?

Wolf: In the Ministry of State Security I was responsible for reconnaissance.

DER SPIEGEL: "Troika" deals—on the surface—with your brother Konrad's friendship with two other young men in exile in Moscow (and what developed out of this friendship), but you show yourself as an opponent of Stalin and a follower of Gorbachev. Because of the paper's criticism of Stalin, the distribution of SPUTNIK has just been prohibited in the GDR. Soviet films disappeared from GDR cinemas. Is the fraternal alliance no longer as firm as before?

Wolf: I would like to absolutely and categorically deny this last question. Today, in front of our former apartment house in Moscow, I referred to the many threads and reasons on which this fraternal alliance is based. It has a very, very solid basis. Not only because there are people who, like us, lived here in the Soviet Union and brought firm friendship back home, but because in the meantime generations of young people have taken over these feelings

of friendship through the liberation of our country from fascism and through the founding of our state, the GDR; and these are not only feelings, it is a conviction that is based on the fact that development in our country would be inconceivable without this alliance.

DER SPIEGEL: You are frequently in the USSR. How do you assess the current developments in the Soviet Union—such as glasnost and perestroyka?

Wolf: I assess them—like many people in the world and, I am sure, also most people in our country, in the GDR—very positively and with a great amount of sympathetic feelings, and I wish for myself and particularly for the people here in the Soviet Union that these changes will be good and successful.

Glasnost and perestroyka are not slogans. They are, indeed, also scientifically founded guidelines of the CPSU that proceed from the idea of the October Revolution—based on the ideas of Lenin, the founder of this state—and are of far-reaching importance for the development of this country.

DER SPIEGEL: Do you not think that glasnost and perestroyka would be the right thing for the GDR, too?

Wolf: I do not think that it is the words glasnost and perestroyka that matter in the GDR. After all, glasnost and perestroyka are based on the ideas, the ideals of the first victorious socialist revolution, which took place in this country, and the foundations of our state, the GDR, are based exactly on the same ideas.

DER SPIEGEL: If you look at the development of real socialism between Moscow and East Berlin, where about would the GDR be in your opinion?

Wolf: The GDR is firmly in the socialist camp. The GDR stands firmly at the side of the Soviet Union and its allies. As has been stressed recently, but not only just recently, each country has its development, its tradition, its individualities, and I think that the GDR, on the bases that I have mentioned, faces a good, secure, and promising development. I am firmly convinced of this.

DER SPIEGEL: The SED has convened its 12th Congress for May 1990, 1 year earlier than planned. Do you expect changes from the party congress, even a reshuffle of the leadership?

Wolf: I do not expect any changes in the sense that the West would like to see them, namely away from the USSR, away from the foundations that I have mentioned; Such changes will not come about either. Due to the new developments, particularly with regard to economic demands, there will certainly be important decisions; however, other than that I do not want to join those who make prophecies or forecasts.

DER SPIEGEL: Not even with regard to who will succeed Erich Honecker?

Wolf: Not at all.

DER SPIEGEL: Several months ago, DER SPIEGEL wrote that the Soviets would like to see you as a future GDR foreign minister. The current office-holder, Oskar Fischer, was very irritated by this statement. Do you want do go back to politics?

Wolf: I do not think that my friend Oskar Fischer would be irritated by such news. He will have certainly found the right approach to it. We were both born in the same year, 1923, a very good year. We have known one another for a long time, and we know one another very well. To me, this belongs in the realm of speculation.

As to returning to politics: I have never had the feeling that I left politics. Just take the book "Troika"—this is also politics.

DER SPIEGEL: How do you assess the development of inner-German relations?

Wolf: I cannot add very much to the statements that are often and officially made. I think that they correspond to reality, to necessity, and also to, if you like—since you have asked so many questions concerning the Soviet Union—what Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev has emphasized on several occasions: One must not look at the world as one would like to see it, but as it really is. The situation in our two countries has developed over the decades since the war, and has been complicated and will remain complicated. However, our leading statesmen have agreed on the need to proceed from reality that is the reality of today. If this remains like it is, if we really proceed this way, then I think these relations can be seen with optimism in the medium and longer term.

DER SPIEGEL: If you do not see yourself as the chief of intelligence, how do you feel as a retiree?

Wolf: Up to now I have not felt like a retiree for even 1 day, or have not been able to do so. I have many things to do—this short trip to Moscow is one of them. It has certainly been very moving to meet many old friends, and also people I had not seen for 50 years, in front of our former house, in which we had found asylum for 11 years protected from the persecutions of the Nazi regime. Of course, I have also been moved by the commemorative plaque, the pictures of my father and brother on the house in which we used to live. This does bring back many memories.

DER SPIEGEL: Do you want to turn them into further books?

Wolf: They could turn into books. I have to mentally collate many things concerning life, the life of good friends and aquaintences, and the tradition of the anti-fascist struggle; I have to investigate. The investigations for "Troika" were very time-consuming, but also very exciting, very moving for me.

DER SPIEGEL: In the FRG, too, there are celebrations on your father's 100th birthday. Would you like to visit your place of birth, Hechingen, in what today is Baden-Wuerttemberg?

Wolf: I would like to go to our old home in Stuttgart. Unfortunately, since the war I have not been able to do so. As I said, I attended the Nuremberg trial and at that time I thought that this would take place at some time. At some time it will be possible.

DER SPIEGEL: Despite all rapprochement between the two German states the FRG remains the target of the Ministry of State Security without any change. Guenter Guillaume has a place of honor in the gallery of busts of the great "scouts at the invisible front" in the Ministry of State Security. Should German-German detente not also affect the work of the intelligence services on both sides?

Wolf: Your question is worthy of the newspaper BILD. Therefore, I do not want to answer it. Furthermore, there are tasks in every state that simply have to be fulfilled.

SPIEGEL: Guenter Guillaume has just written his memoirs—"The Statement"—which have already been published as a book in the GDR, even though only for a small circle of selected functionaries. Have you read it?

Wolf: Of course, I know the script. I am glad that the book has been published.

Schabowski Honored on 60th Birthday

LD0401173189 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1356 GMT 4 Jan 89

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—Guenter Schabowski received warm congratulations from the SED Politburo today on the occasion of his 60th birthday in the headquarters of the SED Berlin district organization.

Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and State Council Chairman, delivered the congratulations from the party and emphasized the committed work Guenter Schabowski is doing as a member of the Politburo and at the head of the Berlin party organization for the implementation of the party resolutions, especially for the development and the building up of the capital of Berlin, for a good life for its citizens in safety and social security.

In the presence of the members of the party and state leadership Erich Honecker decorated Guenter Schabowski with the Karl Marx Order.

Leaders' Public Appearances for 28 Dec-3 Jan

AU0801172989 [Editorial Report] East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German from 29 December 1988 through 4 January 1989 reports the following public appearances of GDR leaders (date of publication and page number in parentheses):

The following Politburo members attended a festive event of the SED Central Committee on the 70th anniversary of the founding of the KPD in the German State Opera in Berlin on 29 December: Hermann Axen, Hans-Joachim Boehme, Horst Dohlus, Werner Eberlein, Kurt Hager, Joachim Herrmann, Erich Honecker, Werner Jarowinsky, Heinz Kessler, Guenther Kleiber, Egon Krenz, Werner Krolikowski, Siegfried Lorenz, Erich Mielke, Guenter Mittag, Erich Mueckenberger, Alfred Neumann, Willi Stoph, Harry Tisch. The following Politburo candidate members also attended this meeting Inge Lange, Gerhard Mueller, Margarete Mueller, Gerhard Schuerer, and Werner Walde. (30 Dec, p 1)

Werner Eberlein, member of the SED CC Politburo and first secretary of the Magdeburg Bezirk leadership, visited the Magdeburg Main Railroad station and had talks with workers on 1 January. (2 Jan, p 1)

Erich Mielke, member of the SED CC Politburo and minister of state security, spoke at a festive event on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the founding of the KPD held in the USSR Embassy in Berlin on 29 December. (30 Dec, p 2)

Gerhard Mueller, candidate member of the SED CC Politburo and first secretary of the Erfurt Bezirk leadership, visited the Eisenach Car Factory on 2 January. (3 Jan, p 1) Gerhard Mueller spoke at a meeting of party veterans, antifascist resistance fighters, and representatives of the young generation on the 70th anniversary of the founding of the KPD in Erfurt on 2 January. (3 Jan, p 2)

Werner Walde, candidate member of the SED CC Politburo and first secretary of the Cottbus Bezirk leadership, visited the Welzow-Sued Open Pit Mine on 1 January. (2 Jan, p 1) Werner Walde met with Cuban workers in the Schoenebeck Tractor and Diesel Engine Works on 2 January. (3 Jan, p 2)

Council of Ministers Issues Price Increases

LD0801190689 Budapest MTI in English 1807 GMT 8 Jan 89

[Text] Budapest, January 8 (MTI)—The Council of Ministers has issued a communique on the central consumer's price rises for 1989, and the raises in social-welfare policy allowances. Accordingly, the consumer price level in 1989 will increase more moderately than in 1988, at most by 15 per cent. In the first months of the year, central price rises averaging 20-22 per cent will be introduced which affect many important products and services purchased and used by the population. The price rises are related to a growth in input, the reduction of producer and consumer price subsidies, and the changes in the taxation conditions.

From January 9, food prices will go up by an average 16 to 17 per cent. Within this, the average rise in the price of beef will be some 30 per cent, of pork and meat preparations an average 13 to 14 per cent, and the price of poultry meat will also go up in a similar degree. The price of lard, vegetable oil and margarine will go up by average 15 [percent], of milk and dairy products by an average 40 per cent. Prices of flour and baking industry products are to increase by 15-16 per cent, granulated sugar, spices and citrus fruit prices will go up more moderately. The rise in food prices will also be enforced in catering industry prices.

Detergent prices will go up by an average 8 per cent.

The prices of medicines will go up by 82 per cent, alongside major differentiation.

Car prices will go up by an average 25 per cent.

Fees of local transportation in Budapest will go up by 90 per cent, in the provinces by 55, of railway passenger transport by 30 per cent, long-distance bus ticket prices will go up by 10 per cent.

Prices of postal services, telephone and television subscription fees will go up by a considerable degree.

After March 1, drinking water and sewage use fees will go up by 220-290 per cent, household energy carriers will go up by an average 30 per cent.

The sources available for social-welfare policy tasks in 1989 make it possible to offset some three-fourths of the growth in the prices of the fundamental products and services for pensioners and persons receiving social-welfare care. Alongside this, several favourable steps that affect the supply system will also be taken. The government has assumed the obligation that if the growth in the consumer price level becomes considerably higher than the degree taken as the basis for the social-welfare policy measures, it will take further income increasing steps.

The economic organizations can have a very important part in making the price rises an acceptable burden for the population. Therefore, the government expects, and asks the economic organizations—the producers, servicing enterprises and dealers—to attain their profits by increasing their performances, by more rational and austere management, by improving the standard of the offer, quality and servicing, rather than by raising the prices.

Further on New Price Hikes

LD0801093189 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 0900 GMT 8 Jan 89

[Text] Central price increases will take place in our homeland starting tomorrow. Bela Szikszai, state secretary for the National Prices Office, has said that food prices will go up by 16-17 percent, including meat products, which will go up 16 percent, while dairy goods will cost 40 percent more.

In an interview with VASARNAPI HIREK, he additionally said that bakery products will also become more expensive and that the price of sugar and candy also will go up.

Cars will on average cost 25 percent more. Bus, tram, and subway tickets will cost 80 percent more in Budapest beginning 1 February, while nationally their price will increase by an average of 62 percent.

The detailed price rises will be published tonight.

Union Head on 'Vehement Reaction' to Price Hikes

LD0501221289 Budapest MTI in English 2010 GMT 5 Jan 89

[Text] Budapest, January 5 (MTI)—There has been a vehement reaction to the planned price rises all over the country, Sandor Nagy, general secretary of the Central Council of Trade Unions (SZOT), said at the opening ceremony of an indoor swimming pool in Mezotur, eastern Hungary.

Some collectives turned to SZOT for defence, others threatened with strikes, Mr Nagy said. Many people think that the trade unions did not duly represent the interests of workers in their talks with the government. The SZOT general secretary pointed out that the trade unions achieved a smaller decrease in real wages than the originally planned 6 percent. SZOT sticks to this agreement and will avail themselves all legal means to assert it. Nevertheless, a wave of protest involving strikes is not in the interest of anyone since it would bring the country in an even more difficult situation, Mr Nagy said.

SZOT Board on New Prices, Strikes

LD0601212289 Budapest MTI in English
2038 GMT 6 Jan 89

[Text] Budapest, January 6 (MTI)—At its Friday [6 January] session, the board of the Central Council of Trade Unions (SZOT) accepted as a starting point that the draft strike law declares the right to strike as a collective right of employees. It rejected the premise, however, that only the trade unions are allowed to initiate and organize strikes. The initiating and organization of strikes should in any case be a collective right of workers. The board insisted that the law should not exclude the possibility of solidarity strike and allow extramural sectoral strikes. The SZOT board held it necessary for the trade unions to elaborate their internal strike rules, and considered it indispensable to guarantee by law the secrecy and protection of the strike fund. With a single vote against, the SZOT board agreed with the draft, together with the proposals for amendment.

In the wake of the preliminary debates and in keeping with the position of SZOT, the amended labour code will invariably make it obligatory to conclude collective bargaining agreements, even in a wider range than previously, and will not change the government decree related to the stewards' and the unions' right of agreement. With some modifications, the SZOT board agreed with the draft.

The board took again a stand on the planned consumer price measures. The SZOT board is aware that the gradual establishment of market relations, including the enforcement of the economic role of consumer prices and the reduction of consumer price subsidies, is an indispensable condition of stabilizing the national economy and starting an economic upswing. Nevertheless, the board holds the view that the central price measures will gravely affect the population, and particulary the low-income strata.

While the prices are increasingly governed by the law of the market, the wages and earnings are no longer, or to a lesser extent, sufficient for covering the costs of labour. Therefore the trade unions demand that the government should use the finances relieved by the cuts in subsidies not only for reducing the deficit of the central budget but also for genuinely compensating the price rises and accelerating the wage and welfare policy reforms.

The agreement reached in the latest consultations of the government and SZOT leaders and the session of the National Interest Coordination Council considerably eased the originally planned extent of real wage cuts which were unacceptable for the unions.

The trade union movement will use all the means available to enforce the interests of employees and observe the agreements. In the interest of the public control of price rises, SZOT will further develop its information system and take steps to calculate the index of costs of living. If the real wage and real income level stipulated in the agreement does not seem to be guaranteed, the SZOT board will initiate talks with the government.

The board regards the wide-scale indignation of workers at the planned major price rises as justified. At the same time it calls attention to the fact that a wave of protest leading to mass strikes and endangering the economic and political stability of the country does not stand in the interest of anyone.

Nemeth on 'People's Front,' Coalition Government

LD3112093888 Budapest MTI in English
0016 GMT 31 Dec 88

[Text] Budapest, December 31 (MTI)—The New Year's edition of "NEPSZABADSAG" carries a lengthy interview with Prime Minister Miklos Nemeth, who analyzes in detail the current situation of Hungarian society and economy. We carry the section referring to the governmental work, and his political philosophy:

"I would mainly stress that we genuinely should put things in order in governmental work—by enforcing the principles of rationality, professionalism and responsibility. A 'power that serves' stands in the focus of my governmental philosophy, one which realizes economy and society building goals with its professional knowledge, commitment and moral conduct. I commit myself to a form of governing which breaks down the hierarchial frameworks of bureaucracy with the democracy of knowledge...we mainly wish to rely on the increasingly strengthening National Assembly, but we also require the assistance of the party as a social force.

"It is, however, my conviction that we can implement our tasks only if we free the forces which exist in society, but were previously suppressed. I think of the organizations that came about as the result of social self-organization, of which we might find out in the course of cooperation that they are not, after all, as really 'alternative', as their position can coincide with those of the government in certain issues. I am ready to accept severe criticism from any political organization that rests on the basis of socialist constitutionality, and prepared to consider the constructive proposals. In other words: I wish to tend towards a People's Front, coalition governing, and I subordinate the organizational and personal steps to this. I have no ready remedies. I plan changes as we go along. Perhaps we can discuss specific issues in the coming months, but no later than January or February. Until then, we endeavour to send signals to society, to the alternative movements in the most varied forms—by renewing the advisory bodies, extending cooperation, linking the various social organizations to the government, expressing our openness, and by our readiness for dialogue and cooperation."

"We do not wish to turn away people who accept cooperation, accept the tasks arising from the situation and wish to participate with responsibility, but rather wish to link

them in and consider them near us. Our greatest problems is the crisis in confidence, and the weakening of authenticity. But perhaps this government and the current leadership can stop this process step by step, with fewer promises, and more declarations of intentions, and with actions, and specific measures. I am confident that people will believe it is worthwhile to join with thoughts and proposals to what we say, or what we promise."

In answer to a question on why there are two ministers of state in the government, Mr Nemeth said:

"It is a fundamental political interest that the experience and extensive scientific knowledge of Rezso Nyers acquired in the course of a career full of events be utilized on a suitable level. Therefore we agreed that Mr Nyers would take over the committee dealing with economic management reform work, which was led by Peter Medgyessy (deputy prime minister - ed.) in the past. Thus Mr Nyers would come back to the same scope of activity and post that he was forced to leave in the early 1970s, but this time as part of the government.

"We shall shortly reconsider the actvity of the advisory bodies affiliated to the government, and renew them both in their attitudes and methods. Our effort is to link social policy to economic policy more and already enforce in the advisory bodies the People's Front and coalition nature. We wish to operate this body as one of the forums of dialogue with the alternative movements. Mr Medgyessy would continue to represent the government in the National Interest Coordination Council. On the other hand, he shall be Hungary's permanent representative to the CMEA [CEMA] and thirdly, he will supervise specific areas with the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, on the part of the goverment. The task and scope of activity of Imre Pozsgay will remain as established earlier."

The prime minister was also asked whether "the country is a prisoner of the World Bank?"

The answer: "We are prisoners not of the World Bank but, to a certain extent of our own debt stock...we have always placed special emphasis that our accepted obligatons do not run contrary to our interests, either in the short or long-term, and that they do not impair our sovereignty. However, we should recognize that the World Bank provides the money made available to us partly for costs related to establishing a market economy, and partly for the realization of specifically formulated projects. Alongside this, like everyone else who lends money, the World Bank wishes to be informed about its utilization. In other words, it can, to a certain extent, oblige us to provide data. Their experts formulate their economic policy recommendations, but this has never had either a compulsory effect, or a political tone", said Prime Minister Miklos Nemeth in the interview.

Pozsgay Interviewed, 'Alternative' Groups Noted

LD3112121088 Budapest MTI in English 1106 GMT 31 Dec 88

[Excerpt] Budapest, December 31 (MTI)—The government's daily "MAGYAR HIRLAP" carries an interview with Imre Pozsgay, minister of state, among other things about the so-called alternative groups. Imre Pozsgay says:

"(...) the government regards these organizations as real social force. Today they are well incorporated into the government's political world view but not into its practice."

"(...) the question is not whether these organizations can exist but whether they are willing to cooperate with the government, or they expound their views as opposition.(...)"

The political forms of these organizations "will be decided by a political struggle between the political movements and the political forces." "MAGYAR NEMZET", the daily of the Patriotic People's Front carries an interview with the leaders of the five major alternative movements: the Hungarian Democratic Forum (MDF), the Federation of Free Democrats (SZDSZ), the Federation of Young Democrats (FIDESZ), the Danube Circle and the Smallholders' Party.

On behalf of the MDF, writer Istvan Csurka said:

"We find the present power incapable of operation and weak even to implement its own reforms. Over the past decades of self-destruction and self-degradation the society—and this is equally important and this is the tougher word—sank into a fatal passivity incapable of bargain. The double task we are facing now is to convince the absolute power about the necessity of compromise and at the same to prepare the society for demanding this compromise.

The MDF wants "half of the kingdom" not for itself but for the Hungarian people. The MDF drew the conclusion from'56 and all the other unsuccessful Hungarian freedoms struggles: It calls for the persistent and comprehensive construction of a democracy capable of lenience, for the silent reoccupation of our own Hungarian history.

Of the alternative groups the MDF has the most members: more than ten thousands and it has significant provincial strongholds. SZDSZ is a typical urban organization with some 2,000 members rallying around the same demands as those of 1956. FIDESZ has also 2,000 members representing varied ideological trends. Its programme focuses on the problems of the youth: employment, housing etc. Danube Circle is the organization of environmental protectionists 'mediating between science and the citizens in the name of ecology.'

The independent Smallholders' Party resumed its work on the basis of historical legal continuity. One fourth of its 2,000 members were also members of the party before 1948. On its banner it can be read "Service of freedom, equality, God, homeland and family for the future". To achieve its targets it is ready to cooperate with all movements in Hungary and abroad. [passage omitted]

'Federation of Young Professionals' Founded 7 Jan

LD0701163689 Budapest MTI in English 1604 GMT 7 Jan 89

[Text] Budapest, January 7 (MTI)—The Federation of Young Professionals held its founding session on Saturday [7 January]. Participants approved the platform declaration of the organization, then worked out the draft programme of the federation in eight work groups, and made proposals on the principles of operation. Following several hours-long debates, they took a stand in the economic, social-welfare policy and public educational issues that most concern young professionals, and formulated proposals for change in the themes of the system of political institutions, education policy and environmental protection. The now-founded organization is to forward its draft documents to the various professional groups, institutions and clubs of professionals and intellectuals.

Straub Interviewed on Dam Referendum Possibility

LD0401000189 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1730 GMT 3 Jan 89

[Interview with Bruno F. Straub, president of the Presidential Council, by Attila Balint; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Announcer] The Danube Circle association and several other environmental protection groups have so far collected 86,000 signatures in support of the demand that a referendum should be held about the Gabcikovo-Nagymaros water barrage. At the appeal of the environmentalists, the list of signatures increased by nearly 16,000 in Budapest yesterday. Attila Balint asked the president of the Presidential Council, Bruno F. Straub, about the possibility of a referendum.

[Begin recording] [Balint] No doubt Bruno F. Straub, president of the Presidential Council, has also been informed that in Budapest and other parts of the country that signatures are being collected, and that a referendum is being requested concerning the Gabcikovo-Nagymaros power plant. The determination, the intention, is that when 100,000 such signatures are collected, this will then be placed on your writing desk here.

[Straub] I do know about it. Alright, well, when it gets here, of course then one will have to deal with it. I would say this much in advance, however: I consider a referendum to be something sacred. On the other hand, one will have to enlighten those who are to vote. There are legal problems, too. Well, take the declaration of a referendum. It is actually noted in the Constitution that this is the affair of the Presidential Council but there is nothing to say how it should be done. For example, who will conduct this work of enlightenment? If 100,000 people have signed it, who is to tell the remaining 4,000,000 electors what it is all about and what has to be done? My view is that we are in fact going around in circles, because the protest says that someone should decide whether there should be a referendum. That someone, in the present conditions, is the parliament. Parliament, however, has already voted and dealt with the matter. I do not consider it conceivable that 100,000 signatures could change the parliament's opinion and lead to an opposite vote. A referendum concerns several millions of citizens and they would all have to be enlightened; it will have to be explained to them.

[Balint] Do you not feel that we are nurturing illusions, or that those who collect these signatures are nurturing illusions?

[Straub] This gives food for thought, and I do not think I could define this well just now, but I feel that this collection of signatures is a movement by the youth. They want to make use of this possibility of having something to protest against. This is a matter against which one can protest, and why not? This represents, I would not say the illusion, but let us say the exercising of democracy. I think it will not lead to results; this is my private opinion. It will count as my private opinion when it is the Presidential Council that will have to decide in this matter.

[Balint] If this list of signatures reaches you, what will you do?

[Straub] I will consult with state lawyers about what must be done, in terms of the Constitution. I think that a president, even if he does not agree, must act if the majority demands it. I do not think this issue will reach that point. [end recording]

Grosz Meets With Central Control Commission

LD0601223389 Budapest MTI in English 1901 GMT 6 Jan 89

[Text] Budapest, January 6 (MTI)—HSWP [MSZMP] General Secretary Karoly Grosz had an informal consultation with the members of the Central Control Committee on Friday [6 January].

The sides exchanged views on the party's activity and the tasks faced by the movement. Particular attention was paid to party unity, discipline, and conditions of the party's operation. The sides surveyed the work since last year's party conference, the related tasks, and some topical home policy issues.

Great stress was laid on the deepening of cooperation between the Central Committee and the Central Control Committee. The meeting reflected that the general secretary and the Central Control Committee held identical positions on the issues on the agenda.

Trade Minister Discusses 1989 Prospects

LD0201110789 Budapest MTI in English
1022 GMT 2 Jan 89

[Text] Budapest, January 2, 1989 (MTI-ECONEWS)—The welcome tendency of improvement of the country's balance of payments may be endangered because Hungarian companies are not interested enough in boosting their hard currency exports, whereas import is becoming liberalised this year, said Minister of Trade Tamas Beck in a recent press statement. He was assessing last year and pondering prospects for the current.

High hopes are pinned to the two new hard currency stores to open later this year in Hungary to help keep Hungarian shoppers here to spend their hard currency, instead of going to Vienna to buy the same goods. (Conflicting estimates put this year's spendings by Hungarian tourists in Austria at between 2 and 5 billion shillings.)

"I do not think we can expect much of the current year, unless we give up putting new and new restraints on companies", the minister said implying he considered the companies' budget dues far too high.

Mr Beck was optimistic about joint ventures [JV's] and believed more would be formed in 1989 than earlier. (Between 1972, when JV's were first licensed in Hungary, and 1985, 47 joint ventures were founded in Hungary with a total foreign capital involvement of $50 million. since 1985 the process has accelerated, as over the past two years 88 new JV's have been formed with a total foreign capital input of $150 million, and by mid-1988 a total of 200 licenses for forming JV's had been issued.)

The minister said he hoped that managers who failed in top executive posts will be dismissed in 1989.

Agricultural Successes, Problems Reviewed

LD0201113189 Budapest MTI in English
1255 GMT 2 Jan 89

[Text] Budapest, January 2 (MTI)—In 1988, Hungarian agriculture reaped a record havest. Next year it is to increase its output by 1 per cent and up its sales to hard-currency markets by 5-7 per cent. Restructuring is also scheduled to take off.

This year the value of agrarian production passed the 490,000-million-forint mark (9,000 million dollars). One third of this output was contributed by small-scale producers. Around 8.6 million tons of grain were harvested, 500,000 tons more than anticipated, while the vegetable harvest exceeded the target by almsot 200,000 tons. Apple, vine and seed growers and fish and poultry breeders are boasting of impressive results as well. Certain maize plantations and orchards, however, were hit by drought.

In 1987 food sales brought in over 1,000 million roubles and 1,300 million dollars to the country, and this year's figures are 1,100 million roubles and 1,400 million dollars. Since the food economy's hard-currency imports amounted to 600 million dollars, the sector achieved a surplus balance of almost 800 million dollars. A quarter of all Hungarian exports to hard-currency markets comes from agriculture. The major hard-currency earners include meat, poultry, vegetables, fruit, cereals and vegetable oil. It is not all a bed of roses for the sector, however. About 100 farms will close the year in the red. The use of fertilizers is inadequate, and cattle and sheep breeders also have their problems. Producers feel it is indispensable to enforce their interests more consistently.

Next year agriculture is to increase its output by 1 per cent. Plant production is to go up by 3-4 per cent, whilst animal breeding will decrease by 2-3 per cent. The share of private farms is to increase by 1 per cent. Several loss-making pig and poultry breeding units are to be wound up. If all goes to plan, the proportion of meat will decrease, and cereals and minor items increase within exports. Hard-currency sales are to rise by 5-7 per cent, and the surplus balance will exceed 830 million dollars. Central subsidies granted to the sector are to be cut by around 10,000 million forints. Restructuring will continue, with the aim of producing profitable export articles and improving quality.

Nyers Says CEMA 'Incapable' of Self-Reform

LD0401122989 Budapest MTI in English
1129 GMT 4 Jan 89

[Text] Budapest, January 4, 1989 (MTI-ECONEWS)—The entire Comecon is incapable of reforming itself under the present conditions with anti-reform forces being prominent in some member countries, said Mr Rezso Nyers, member of the HSWP Political Committee and state minister, in a Tuesday [3 January] lecture in Budapest.

Mr Nyers, a prominent economist, and the mastermind behind the 1968 economic reform had been neglected until last May when with the upsurge of the reform policy he was again elected to the Political Committee.

Commenting on his lecture, the economic daily VILAGGAZDASAG says the GDR and Romania reject all kinds of reform on political grounds and Czechoslovakia's stand is uncertain. Hungary does not see how the Comecon could be substantially reformed even in the long run, but in view of the Soviet Union's apparent political willingness to support the reform, the question arises, whether Soviet-Hungarian trade, taken out of a Comecon context, could be subjected to some reform.

Mr Nyers said Hungary's foreign trade turnover with the Comecon countries was likely to drop by 10 per cent this year, but then it has been stagnant for the last few years, anyway.

As to trade with the Western countries, Mr Nyers said Hungarian exports changed little in value in the years 1980-1988, yet they grew by 20 per cent in quantity, proving that the terms of trade were deteriorating.

He said Hungary should to try to boost export through various forms of cooperation with Western partners, and not exclusively by selling as much as it can of the existing stock of commodities.

Discussing the internal conditions of the Hungarian economy, he said he believed 1988 was a year of a political turn, but no turn took place in the economy as that process was still in a preparatory stage. Consequently, the policy of stabilization declared in September 1987 is actually a year late, since practical steps were first incorporated in the 1989 budget policy, at the end of 1988.

In 1989 consumption and real wages will be curbed again, since last year domestic consumption was cut only by 2.5 per cent as opposed to the targeted 3-3.5 per cent. The economic restructuring programme was not launched in 1988, as only the necessary conditions were beginning to be outlined.

If this year's plans are fulfilled, the deterioration of the standard of living can be halted by 1990, the minister of state said.

Police Deny 18 Corpses Found by Romanian Border
LD0901111689 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 0600 GMT 9 Jan 89

[Text] MAGYAR NEMZET publishes a letter by the Gyula organization of the Hungarian Democratic Forum, addressed to the president of the National Assembly. The letter says that the Bekescsaba Police Headquarters has organized a search of the border area [with Romania], and that along the 50-km stretch between Lokoshaza and Kotagyan, 18 corpses, all of whom were killed by bullets, were found in the corn fields. At the other end of the line we have Lieutenant Colonel Laszlo Gal, who is deputy police chief in Bekescsaba. Is this report true?

[Gal] We have also read this report. It is totally impossible. During the period mentioned in the article, we have not carried out any searches in the vicinity of the border with Romania.

[Reporter] Do you have any knowledge of corpses?

[Gal] No, we are not aware of any victims or corpses. This is such a small county that it would be impossible to hide even 1 or 2 corpses, let alone 18.

Groups Urge Action on Romanian Refugees
LD0601185389 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1730 GMT 6 Jan 89

[Text] The Federation of Free Democrats [Szabad Demokratak Szoevetsege] and the Refugee Committee [Menedek Bizottsag] would like the relevant Hungarian organs not to return anyone from among those persons who escape from Romania to Hungary. In their statement, they urge the Hungarian authorities to not distinguish [between these persons] on the basis of nationality, the possession or lack of travel documents, and the method of and economic or political justification for the escape.

They also propose that Hungary abrogate the 1964 Hungarian-Romanian agreement which constitutes the terms of reference for extraditions and the 1986 border policing agreement.

The Federation of Free Democrats and the Refugee Committee also recommend that Hungary join the Geneva Convention on refugees and that it make possible the activity of a UN refugee office in Hungary. Until this happens, the two groups oppose the establishment of refugee camps because these—in their judgment—would not serve the refugees' interests. The statement also proposes that full publicity be given to the work of the interdepartmental committee that deals with the affairs of refugees from Romania and to the National Center for Alien Registration.

Foreign Minister Varkonyi Leaves for Paris
LD0601191889 Budapest MTI in English 1711 GMT 6 Jan 89

[Text] Budapest, January 6 (MTI)—Hungarian Foreign Minister Peter Varkonyi left for Paris on Friday [6 January]. He will head a delegation to the international conference on the issues of banning chemical weapons.

Matyas Szuros Applauds Gorbachev UN Speech
PM0401121789 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Jan 89 Second Edition p 4

[Article by Matyas Szuros, secretary of the MSZMP Central Committee and chairman of the Hungarian Assembly Foreign Affairs Committee: "With Prospects for the Future. UN Speech: Boost for Quest and Action"]

[Text] Budapest, Jan—A broad range of leading politicians and the international public have expressed identical opinions on M.S. Gorbachev's speech at the United Nations and his statement concerning a considerable unilateral reduction in and withdrawal of troops as being an outstandingly important event of 1988. In the universal opinion, what was said represents practical implementation both of the Soviet policy of new thinking that has been taking shape since 1985 and is becoming increasingly crucial and of the modern concept in the disarmament sphere.

This philosophy rejects the military logic of mutual destruction. It expresses a desire for maximum, equal, and guaranteed security—at a lower military level. It is based on new political notions that have the interests of all mankind at heart. This step heralds the possibility of a turnaround in international relations whose overall political, economic, and military significance is as yet immeasurable today. It is propitious that this kind of approach can increasingly be found in talks on the crucial issues of our present and future. It is also reflected in agreements.

The speech in New York at the UN session continues a series of Soviet initiatives linked with the most important problems of international life. It expresses an approach treating the political, economic, cultural, and humanitarian side of cooperation and security and the question of environmental protection as a single entity. In the opinion of Western observers, the new Soviet initiative has created the possibility of a move away from mutual total confrontation to a stance that accords with the demands of our era. As a result, one can already see the outlines of a new world order, based on cooperation, in which countries belonging to different social systems will strive to solve jointly the global problems facing mankind without ideological prejudice and in the light of their mutual dependence and their own interests.

The Soviet Union is endeavoring to find new approaches to strengthening international peace and security in conditions where the level of global equilibrium in the most crucial sphere, from the viewpoint of the correlation of forces—the sphere of strategic offensive arms—will remain unchanged. Talks on an approximate 50-percent reduction in these weapons systems are at the coordination stage, although it has not as yet proved possible to achieve a satisfactory result. In this situation the Soviet Union—while continuing to make extensive efforts aimed at securing equilibrium in nuclear arms at a lower level—also wants to facilitate the elimination of the prevailing asymmetries in the conventional arms sphere. This indicates its realization that there is no chance of making substantial progress in any other sphere of disarmament without reducing and limiting conventional arms.

The Soviet Union's unilateral actions are steadily reducing the sense of threat fueled by the West and the concern over security, and are softening the traditional "enemy image." At the same time there is the possibility that, against the backdrop of growing trust, Western states will display their own initiatives and that the upward spiral of military measures and countermeasures will be replaced by a downward spiral. Although one cannot realistically expect a situation acceptable to NATO in every respect to arise immediately as a result of the Soviet statement, it is nonetheless desirable for the other side to follow the Soviet steps in the interests of reducing conventional arms. This is above all possible in those spheres where the West has superiority: for instance, in offensive naval and air forces.

While unilaterally reducing its tank and infantry regiments, the Soviet Union is not linking this act with the talks on conventional arms reductions held now and in the future. At the same time this act gave a considerable boost to the start of the crucial process. The chances of success in the upcoming talks on arms reductions are improving. Their entire course may also be speeded up. Weighty obstacles have been removed from the path of building a common "European home": Trust between the inhabitants of this home is growing. All this may help create qualitatively new conditions for summit meetings. The new possibilities are already leading to a situation in which it is worth holding a European-Atlantic summit meeting.

I would also like to mention in this connection the fact that the countries allied with us put forward an initiative in 1986 at a conference in Budapest on a substantial reduction in armed forces and conventional arms. This was stressed once again in Warsaw at the conference of the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee. Through its unilateral reduction the Soviet Union has now taken a considerable step in this direction.

Thus there is greater consonance between the political and the military-technical aspects of the doctrine of our alliance system. This also constitutes a convincing response to those Western opinions that reproach us with lacking such consonance: The professed defensive nature of our doctrine and our offensive capabilities stemming from the prevailing structure of our armed forces counter one another. How necessary it is for the other side, NATO, to take similar steps indicating its political realism and boldness!

The Soviet Union is setting about transferring a number of military industry enterprises to civilian production. I deem this very important not only for the Soviet Union but also for the entire socialist world. Not only the diverse material resources freed by the disarmament process but also the use in the national economy of a considerable proportion of new industrial capacities will substantially promote the development of the Soviet economy and boost the population's standard of living.

This will help provide crucial proof of the feasibility of restructuring and its advantages and lead to changes in everyday life, which is necessary for those who are still in doubt today as to the correctness of the new path elaborated by the CPSU. The socialist countries that have embarked on the path of renewal could undoubtedly derive useful experience and tremendous support from the successes of Soviet economic reform. Switching military production to civilian purposes also proves at the same time that the Soviet leadership does not want to make up for the quantitative reduction in conventional arms with a large-scale modernization at the Warsaw Pact level either.

The fact that these measures also apply to the Soviet Armed Forces on our territory is of equally great importance both for Hungary's policy and for our public. This step accords with the concerted stance of the Warsaw Pact countries. It accords with the jointly elaborated stance of the alliance states and that of Hungary and is also consonant with our national interests. The desire for the Soviet forces and arms still left in our country to gradually be turned into defensive forces and arms also corresponds with our joint desires.

The Soviet arms limitation proposals prove the realism of the initiatives previously put forward by the MSZMP aimed at ensuring that Hungary is an active participant in the first stage of the process of disarmament and conventional arms reductions in Europe. Our country does not lie on the "main strategic salient." It threatens no one. Thus the reduction and withdrawal of troops will not weaken the security of either our country or our alliance system. We believe that Hungary can be a proving ground not only in the sphere of reductions in conventional forces and arms but also in the sphere of international verification and the fulfillment of disarmament measures.

I would like to stress that our country is taking an active part in the consistent implementation of the Soviet proposals in accordance with our specific capabilities and interests, supplementing them with independent proposals in the spirit of its foreign policy and defense aspirations. We in Hungary reckon that M.S. Gorbachev's speech is also important for Hungarian-Soviet cooperation. We jointly advocate the creation of the requisite international conditions for greater external and internal security and also on questions of establishing priorities in fulfilling the tasks facing us. [sentence as published]

National Bank Spokesman on Japanese Loan

LD0201135289 Budapest MTI in English
1225 GMT 2 Jan 89

[Text] Budapest, January 2, 1989 (MTI-ECONEWS)—National Bank of Hungary sources commented Monday [2 January] that the release of the news on a USD 60 million dollar loan to Hungary by the Japanese Export Import Bank in the economic daily NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN amounts to a confirmation of the Japanese Government's authorization of the Tokyo financial institute to hold concrete talks with Hungarian financial authorities on the planned loan.

But the January 1 article in the NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN claimed the Japanese Export-Import Bank had granted Hungary a USD 60 million untied loan, following a decision to such effect by the Japanese Government.

A National Bank spokesman said the loan was called "untied" because no Japanese deliveries were tied to it. He added the new Japanese loan would co-finance a World Bank credit of USD 200 million signed in July 1988 to finance the restructuring of the Hungarian industry.

The NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN asserted the Japanese Government decision was influenced by the fact that Hungary's economy was the most open of the socialist countries, and it was also the first country to establish contacts with South Korea. If the Hungarian Government continues on the path it has taken, the Japanese Government may consider granting further loans, says the NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN.

FRG Accord Signed on Hungarian Guest Workers

LD0301143289 Budapest MTI in English
1305 GMT 3 Jan 89

[Excerpt] Budapest, January 3 (MTI)—On Tuesday [3 January] Under-Secretary of State Csaba Halmos, president of the State Office for Wages and Labour, and Hans Alfred Steger, ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Hungary, signed an agreement on the employment of Hungarian citizens under entrepreneurial contracts in the Federal Republic of Germany.

In future, 2,500 Hungarian citizens may receive labour permits from the FRG authorities, provided the basis of employment is an entrepreneurial contract concluded by companies of the two countries. The accord is expected to create more favourable opportunities for Hungarian and FRG companies to increase workforce, and the licensing procedure will become less complicated. [passage omitted]

MSZMP Greets SED on KPD Anniversary

AU0201121489 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 30 Dec 88 p 1

[Message from the MSZMP Central Committee to the SED Central Committee on the 70th anniversary of the founding of the KPD; date not given]

[Text] To the SED Central Committee, Berlin

Dear comrades:
On the 70th anniversary of the founding of the KPD, the MSZMP Central Committee conveys its comradely greetings and friendly congratulations to the SED Central Committee and to all GDR Communists.

When—in the fire of the German November revolution and following the example of the Great October Socialist Revolution—the Spartakus League decided to found the KPD as a result of the consistent struggle of the German Left 7 decades ago, a new chapter of the German workers movement started. The ideas and goals for which the members of the Spartakus League struggled were a secure support and compass for the German Communists and resistance fighters in their struggle against fascist dictatorship and war. The best sons of the German people made great sacrifices for the realization of these goals.

We note with satisfaction that—based on the revolutionary traditions developed in the joint struggle of the Hungarian and German workers movement for social progress and peace—sincere friendship and trusting cooperation have developed between the MSZMP and the SED because of the common ideas and fundamental goals. Our parties have achieved important results in strengthening the cooperation and international friendship of our peoples, whose benefits serve the interests of our two peoples.

On the anniversary of this historically important event, we wholeheartedly wish the GDR people and all SED members much success and good results in implementing the decisions of the 11th SED Congress.

MSZMP Central Committee

Pope Appoints Hungarian Assistant Bishops

AU0301103389 Budapest MAGYAR HIRLAP in Hungarian 31 Dec 88 p 7

[Text] Pope John Paul II has appointed Dr Vilmos Dekany, rector of the theological college in Debrecen, and Dr Asztrik Varszegi, Bence provost, as assistant bishops of Esztergom; Dr Nandor Takacs, professor at the theological college in Gyor, as assistant bishop of Szekesfehervar; Mihaly Mayer, vicar of Szekszard, as assistant bishop of Pecs; and Istvan Acs, vicar of Fuzer, as assistant bishop of Eger. On the basis of Law No 22/1957, the Presidential Council of the Hungarian People's Republic had given preliminary approval to the aforementioned appointments.

Statement Issued on U.S.-Libyan Relations

LD0601185489 Warsaw PAP in English
1759 GMT 6 Jan 89

[Text] Warsaw, Jan. 6: In connection with the tension in U.S.-Libyan relations and the shooting own of two Libyan airplanes by U.S. air forces on January 4, the Polish Foreign Ministry spokesman declared the following:

The Polish authorities observe with deep concern the growing tension in the U.S.-Libyan relations in the context of U.S. accusations against Libya concerning Libya's alleged preparations for the production of chemical weapons.

Despite the fact that Libya has officially expressed her readiness to open the Rabitah pharmaceutical plant to an inspection of international experts, Washington upheld its threats to start military action against the factory now under construction. Another dangerous element of the escalation of the U.S.-Libyan tension is the downing of two Libyan airplanes by U.S. air forces on January 4.

I wish to recall that Poland has many times pointed to the necessity to strictly observe, in international relations, the principle contained in the U.N. Charter of the non-use of force.

This is particularly necessary right now when a new climate of world relations is only consolidating and efforts are being made on many planes to give the process an irreversible character.

One of the many examples of measures in this direction is the upcoming conference on chemical weapons ban in Paris. In this situation the U.S. employment of military means and shooting down of the Libyan planes causes our serious concern. For it hits at the peaceful order in the world and disturbs the atmosphere of international relations.

We appeal for showing moderation and preventing the escalation of tension. We believe that the controversy which has arisen between the United States and Libya can and should be explained by political means.

Malinowski Meets Envoy in Tehran, Supports 598

LD0501174389 Tehran IRNA in English
1625 GMT 5 Jan 89

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 5, IRNA—Polish Parliamentary Speaker Roman Malinowski Wednesday considered implementation of the U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 as the principle way to thoroughly end the Iraq-Iran war.

In a meeting with Iran's ambassador to Warsaw, Abol Fazl Rahnama, Malinowski acknowledged Iran's sincere cooperation with U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar saying, "It is Iraq which should work for the implementation of the resolution".

Malinowski referred to his coming meeting with De Cuellar and said he will stress full enforcement of the resolution and support the secretary general's efforts.

He also renewed his invitation to Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani to visit Warsaw, and said "Poland welcomes Rafsanjani not only as Iran's Majles speaker but as a political thinker and personality".

Developments in the Persian Gulf region and Tehran-Warsaw ties were also discussed in the meeting.

Siwicki Interviewed on Army Changes

AU0901101589 Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish
4 Jan 89 p 3

[Interview with Army General Florian Siwicki, PZPR Politburo member and minister of national defense, by Stanislaw Reperowicz: "Changes in the Polish Army"—date and place not given]

[Text] [Reperowicz] Comrade General, what made the National Defense Committee tackle exceedingly important problems involving defense and the Armed Forces in November 1988?

[Siwicki] Tasks concerning the country's defense are mainly determined by the international situation. Favorable, qualitatively new phenomena and trends have appeared in this situation in recent years. The energetic activity of the socialist countries, especially the Soviet Union, aimed at ensuring a lasting peace, are starting to bear fruit. The new thinking is strongly influencing the public, and is also embracing political circles more and more. It is gradually providing concrete results. Particularly noticeable is the trend to develop dialogue between countries in opposing political-military blocs.

In the military sphere, between the countries of both alliances, one notices a gradual elimination of the mistrust that had built up over many years. Let me cite as an example the recent official visit to Poland by Norwegian Minister Johan Jorgen Holst, the first visit to our country by a NATO defense minister since 1980. The talks focused on matters of detente and security policy in Europe, armed forces reductions, and a modification of military doctrines. The exchange of views on these important subjects resulted in a better understanding of both sides' intentions.

The decisions of the Stockholm Conference on Confidence-Building Measures and Security and Disarmament in Europe have also encouraged the elimination of prejudices. The mutual exchange of information on larger military exercises, the sending of observers, and inspections on demand—all this creates conditions for a constructive shaping of military relations between the Warsaw Pact and the North Atlantic pact.

The new thinking about the possibilities and need to build confidence and the first Soviet-American disarmament agreements, including the openness vis-a-vis comprehensive controls, have provided a stimulus for further undertakings aimed at detente in international relations. The official declaration of the Warsaw Pact states' military defense doctrine was a very important step along this road.

The decision made by the National Defense Committee on 21 November 1988 also emerged from an assessment of Poland's economic situation. In particular, it is essential to achieve a higher level of the produced national income. For this purpose, there should be a profound economic reform to the national economy, as well as a tightening of austerity discipline.

The efficiency course established by the 10th party congress is also finding suitable expression among us in the Army. The point, in particular, is to reduce the defense burden on the state budget and, at the same time, introduce increasingly effective forms of organization and action in every sphere of military life. The basic objective is the kind of changes following which the Army will be smaller in size, but characterized by high quality, mobility, and an ability to meet the challenge posed by national security.

[Reperowicz] How does the recently-announced Warsaw Pact military defense doctrine differ from the doctrine in force until now?

[Siwicki] The requirements of the times, posed by the rapid changes in the international situation, do not leave the defense sphere aside, which includes the existing organization of the national defense system and a model of the Armed Forces in the military-political reality of today and tomorrow.

Therefore, we have undertaken work aimed at applying military doctrine to our state's present defense conditions and needs. Replying to the question, I wish to firmly stress at the same time that both our national military doctrine and our allied military doctrine have never had other than defense-oriented designs. Despite this, the political-military situation of previous decades was marked by mutual hostility and suspicion.

However, as I have already said, this situation has been subject to major favorable changes for some time. The new political thinking is bearing fruit. That is why the Warsaw Pact states have decided to clearly and officially emphasize yet again the defensive nature of their national and allied doctrines and confirm it by a gesture of goodwill, in other words a unilateral reduction of a part of their forces and combat materiel. Hereby it is stressed, and this is exceedingly important, that for the present defense doctrine, the principle of sufficiency is adequate, in other words maintaining armed forces at a level that is essential in order to satisfy real defense needs.

If the national and allied doctrines on both sides of Europe's political division are observed and the doctrinal decisions implemented, then mutual confidence and the preservation of peace will become more probable and permanent.

That is the reason for such a strong presentation of the defensive nature of our doctrine.

[Reperowicz] What is the relationship between the allied and national doctrine?

[Siwicki] The modern divided world has become so complex, and there are so many different threats, that most states have joined this or that political-military organization and are combining their forces for the sake of defending their own interests and their joint interests. When one combines forces, one must also have a joint defense doctrine. That is how the socialist allied defense doctrine emerged.

Our military doctrines—national and allied—are convergent in their essence and general assumptions. They both strongly underline their defensive nature, including the fact that we have no territorial claims against anyone.

However, just like every nation, our nation has its history and traditions, its state and economy, its geopolitical situation, and many other factors, including "its" threats. Therefore, it must also have its own defense potential and its own national defense doctrine.

[Reperowicz] Could you tell us more about our defense doctrine, Comrade General?

[Siwicki] The politics of our socialist state are guided by the interests of the Polish nation; its independence, sovereignty, and security; and its desire for peace and cooperation between nations. We will aim to safeguard the nation's security chiefly by means of a system of mutual guarantees and commitments that would be respected by all states, regardless of their sociopolitical system. We are determined supporters of the principle of the non-use of force. We perceive the need to resolve all thorny issues purely by the method of peace, non-interference in the domestic affairs of other states, and equal rights for these states. That is why, in accordance with the UN Charter, the CSCE Final Act, and the norms that are generally accepted in international relations, we observe the interests of security and the principle of peaceful coexistence, and we speak out in favor of respecting the independence and national sovereignty, inviolability of borders, and territorial integrity of other states.

Modern weapons make war in Europe senseless: War would result in enormous losses and destruction and, in the event of weapons of mass destruction being used—nuclear or chemical weapons—it would result in the end

of biological life. That is why we consider limiting and reducing weapons up to the point of their complete elimination a further fundamental principle underlying our policy.

It is our great historic achievement that we find ourselves surrounded by friends and allies. We do not face a direct threat.

However, at the same time, we are the only country in Europe to have its Western border called into question. This represents another challenge, which—in view of its negative bearing on stability in Europe—is a source of indirect danger.

This is one of the factors that makes it essential for us to maintain an appropriate defense potential as well as coordinate and link our defense preparations to similar undertakings on the part of our Warsaw Pact allies. Alliance with the socialist states and with the Soviet Union, above all, is the basic guarantee of our security.

Our policy for shaping our Armed Forces is geared toward having the organizational structures and Armed Forces, in terms of size and equipment, that are really essential for guaranteeing our country's security within the framework of the coalition defense system. Thus, these are undertakings that are realized in accordance with what is dictated by the changing political and military situation in the world, and in Europe in particular. It should also be pointed out that ensuring the security of the state is not just the duty of the Armed Forces, but also that of the nation as a whole. Defense is one of the fundamental tasks of every citizen, as well as of organs of government and the state administration, and of social and political organizations, whose duties toward our country's position were set out in the law on the universal duty of defending the PPR. This is also something that reflects the specifically national features of our doctrine.

[Reperowicz] The Warsaw Pact states have set out their military doctrine in a clear and unambiguous manner. What is the NATO states' position on this question?

[Siwicki] We can observe ambiguity and a kind of dualism in the actions of the NATO states. On the one hand, they declare that nuclear war is impermissible and agree to talks on reducing forces and weapons. On the other hand, they pin hopes on their military potential, on modernizing their armies, and, in particular, on improving tactical nuclear weapons and offensive conventional weapons, as well as on the militarization of space.

The NATO "summit" in Brussels in March 1988 affirmed the wish to maintain military strike capacity at an appropriately high level.

This means that the North-Atlantic bloc has not abandoned the arms race, especially in its new technological aspect.

Being unable to ignore the Warsaw Pact's forceful championing of a desire for detente and real disarmament decisions, the NATO states treat disarmament dialogue in an opportunistic fashion to a significant extent, and they make the disarmament process, especially conventional disarmament, dependent on the preservation of their own superiority and not on reducing defense capacity to the lowest necessary level, which is the case with our doctrine.

In short, one can say that the NATO states—this has been the case until now—remain advocates of pursuing policy from a position of strength, although officially they proclaim the idea of "balanced security."

[Reperowicz] So why are the socialist countries undertaking such far-reaching disarmament undertakings unilaterally?

[Siwicki] The socialist states are displaying goodwill, giving proof of their peaceful intentions, and aiming to reconstruct mutual confidence and really reduce the danger of military confrontation. They recognize that on both sides there is an asymmetry in some spheres; for example the Warsaw Pact has more tanks and artillery. That is why the socialist states decided to take the first step toward reducing this asymmetry. The NATO states, however, possess an advantage in other spheres, for example in air and naval forces. Therefore, we expect NATO to reciprocate.

By means of their practical unilateral reductions, especially such far-reaching undertakings as the ones recently announced at the United Nations by CPSU General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev, the Warsaw Pact states wish to give clear proof of their real intentions, and wish to create a "credit of trust" and encourage the other side to take similar decisions and actions.

Such a situation will also allow the beginning of the process of reducing defense spending, and consequently reducing the size of our Armed Forces, as expressed in the National Defense Committee's decisions. At the same time, this gives practical confirmation of the proposals contained in the Jaruzelski Plan. I will recall the main points of these proposals:

—Reducing those categories of nuclear weapons that were not covered by the USSR-U.S. talks;
—Reducing or withdrawing offensive conventional armaments from the so-called zones of a loose concentration of weapons [strefy rozrzedzonych zbrojen], which would prevent surprise attacks;
—Converting military doctrines to a status that would prevent them from being mutually regarded as offensive;
—Further expanding military confidence-building measures.

A particular feature of this plan is its openness, which means that it may be discussed and implemented in its entirety or in part. That is what makes it an encouraging proposal to those who hold a reserved attitude toward it.

[Reperowicz] What are the chief reasons why the National Defense Committee decided to reorganize the Armed Forces and reduce military expenditures at this time?

[Siwicki] I mentioned the conditions that lay at the roots of these decisions in my introduction. These reasons may be summarized in three points.

First—Generally favorable changes to the political situation in Europe, permitting a practical expression of the hope that the peaceful tendencies will be permanent;

Second—The defensive nature of our military doctrine, which in its new form does not solely boil down to rhetorical statements, but initiates concrete changes in the ways in which defense tasks are performed, and therefore changes to the Armed Forces as well;

Third and last—Rationalization and austerity measures, especially structural-organizational changes to the Armed Forces and restricted supplies of materiel and weapons, which release extra resources for the national economy. This is our contribution to the economic consolidation plan.

I wish to stress that in previous years we were also very restrained when planning the shape of the Armed Forces. We also made changes to the Army's organization. For example, in the last 2 years we have regrouped two mechanized divisions with incomplete personnel status, as well as several military units, including in the Air Force, artillery, and other branches. We have also converted the Sixth and Seventh Airborne Divisions into brigades. As a result of these and other undertakings, we have reduced the size of the Army by about 15,000 men and withdrawn many aircraft, tanks, artillery pieces, and other older-generation materiel.

In addition, the system of austere and rational management that has been in force in the Armed Forces for several years and is saving billions of zlotys a year is enabling us to plan a suitably reduced level of military expenditures.

So far, we have regarded structural changes to the Army as internal ministerial affairs, and that is why they have never been broadly publicized, although they have been presented to the Sejm National Defense and Economic Plan Commission every year as part of the Sejm's work on central annual plans.

[Reperowicz] How should one interpret the statement contained in the communique issued by the National Defense Committee on approving work in directions that would ensure that Poland possesses the essential degree of defense capability?

[Siwicki] This means having the defense capability—in particular, the armed forces—that would ensure that we are able to effectively defend our country in relation to the level of threat that exists: Our ability to defend ourselves can be greater or smaller, depending on whether the threat is greater or smaller. What I would like to stress here once again is that this capability is always kept to the level of essential sufficiency.

It is obvious that the preservation of peace is best served by military equilibrium between opposing military and political groupings. Unfortunately, during the entire postwar period, essentially, what we were really dealing with was the maintenance of equilibrium, but at an increasingly higher level. This state of affairs, called the arms spiral, has led nowhere.

The need to change this state of affairs has become the challenge of our times. It is something that can be changed by increasing mutual trust and balanced reductions in the military potentials accumulated by both sides without reducing the security of either side.

And that is the substance of the idea of essential defense capability.

[Reperowicz] Could you provide some examples of structural changes to our Armed Forces that are planned for the near future?

[Siwicki] This is a very complicated issue, a highly professional issue, but, in general terms, I would reduce it to the following undertakings:

—We will eliminate, streamline, or merge some central military institutions, even branches of the Armed Forces;
—We are planning to combine some military academies and colleges for officers that have similar teaching programs;
—We intend to reduce the size of some branches of the Armed Forces and armies, that is, we want to maintain fewer units, but units that possess a high level of combat efficiency, are equipped with the best weaponry that we can provide, and are able to respond rapidly to every possible threat;
—We will increase the number of units maintained in "cadre" form [w stanie "skadrowanym"], that is, personnel levels will be significantly reduced in peacetime;
—Units that perform production and service tasks for the Armed Forces and the national economy as part of training are undergoing fundamental changes. This applies to regional defense units, engineering-construction units, and rail and road units. They are being turned into civil defense units: Their character is fundamentally changing. They are being placed outside the Armed Forces;
—We are going to improve the economic methods of training that have been used for years. This applies to both soldiers doing basic training and to reservists. We

will reduce the number of reservists called up for exercises and lower the requirement to provide services goods, and facilities imposed on economic units for this purpose. This will make it possible, among other things, to reduce the high level of costs incurred through the use of weaponry and technical equipment.

All the undertakings that have been named must be realized with a great sense of responsibility. That is why we will gradually introduce these changes over the course of the next few years and maintain the military's necessary level of combat readiness while so doing.

At the same time, we will ensure that appropriate use is made of personnel from reorganized or disbanded units. We will transfer them to where we feel there is a lack of personnel. Others will be retrained to perform other functions. Some of those who go into well-deserved retirement or, in view of the state of their health, leave on appropriate pensions will not have successors. In other words, the highest goal will be that of skillfully balancing what is good for service with the individual lot of every professional soldier.

We expect these changes will cause favorable personnel advantages and huge savings in materials and funds, including for investment purposes, running into tens of thousands of zlotys. However, the rate of change will depend on the situation's development. Although I am repeating myself, I would like to stress very strongly that that we are making these decisions in advance, "on credit" in the sphere of confidence, as it were.

I am convinced that, just as it always has in the past, this time, too, our action will encounter understanding and support from the professional cadres and from the party organizations inside military units. Only with combined strength will we manage to carry out these major changes.

[Reperowicz] To what extent will the present and planned changes affect state defense spending?

[Siwicki] So far, the percentage of defense spending out of the national income has hovered in the region of 4 percent. That meant that when the national income increased, defense spending increased at the same rate. The favorable changes in the international situation that I mentioned before are giving practical expression to the hope that peaceful trends will be permanent, which will enable us to guarantee national security at a suitably lower cost.

It is on these conditions that we base the rationalization-austerity undertakings I have discussed, and the process of reducing budget spending on defense is the logical consequence of this. This year, 1989, these undertakings permit a 4-percent reduction in defense spending compared to 1988. Therefore, this is a departure from the principle of a gradual rise in defense spending mentioned in the introduction.

The percentage of defense spending out of the distributed national income will fall from 3.8 percent in 1988 to 3.6 percent in 1989. However, the size of Ministry of National Defense spending in relation to total state budget spending will fall from 7.7 percent in 1988 to 5.5 percent in 1989.

I wish to stress that reducing the defense budget cannot cause the social and living conditions of cadres and soldiers undergoing basic military service to deteriorate. Man has always been and will remain the basic factor of our defense potential. That is why concern for soldiers will continue to be the particular task of commanders at all levels.

[Reperowicz] What is the size of state defense spending in 1989?

[Siwicki] In the 1989 budget bill which has been presented before the Sejm, defense spending has been set at Z954 billion.

Let me take this opportunity to quote two figures from this bill. For health protection and social welfare, it provides Z1.38 trillion; and for education it provides Z1.40 trillion.

And perhaps one more figure that was given by the PZPR first secretary at the last plenum. State subsidies for milk and dairy products in 1989 are meant to be Z952 billion, almost the same as for defense.

Information on the size of defense spending is no secret, as society is led to believe. Anyone interested can look it up in the Sejm Calendar or in the materials published by the Main Statistical Office. However, I think we should inform society more about these aspects of our Armed Forces's functioning, and will do so in any case.

[Reperowicz] To what extent will the changes to the Armed Forces affect the use of the defense industry's potential for the sake of market production?

[Siwicki] That question should not be addressed to me, but to the minister of industry because, contrary to what is generally said, the Polish defense industry is not in the hands of the minister of national defense, but in the hands of the minister of industry.

But because the question has been asked, I will answer. Our defense industry is not a separate branch of the national economy. It consists of enterprises that hold the status of a defense industry enterprise. These enterprises produce for the needs of the Army and for the needs of the market; for domestic consumers and for exports. The extent to which they employ their potential for defense purposes varies widely from 90 percent to just a few percent. However, it averages 38 percent.

Right now, the Defense Ministry is cutting down on orders for various kinds of military technology, in other words, there is a chance to use the released potential in order to produce more market goods. The future will tell whether this will happen, it depends on the enterprises. We are counting on the enterprise and initiative of managements and work forces. The first favorable signs are already with us. We could observe them at an exhibition organized by the Ministry of Industry in November 1988.

[Reperowicz] What assistance can society expect the military to provide in surmounting the country's economic difficulties?

[Siwicki] I think that I have already provided an answer to this question in what I have said so far. We must, above all, ensure Poland's security but, at the same time, we want to do so while spending as little as possible, so that the resources saved by the military can be used to the national economy's benefit.

In addition, the military will actively assist, as has been the case until now, the national economy's development, especially in agriculture, transportation, construction, as well as certain sectors of industry. I would remind you that in 1989 alone, the military drained more than 5,100 hectares of farmland, rebuilt the drainage system for 32,000 hectares, and reclaimed about 2,000 hectares of farmland. It was involved in the construction and modernization of transportation routes, rail and road facilities, and industrial facilities.

We are also trying to relieve the foodstuff market as much as possible. We are obtaining significant results in farming and livestock rearing. For example, meat production run by military barracks yields 7,500 tonnes annually and, for example, we satisfy the military's needs for early vegetables 100 percent. Military scientists also make an important contribution to solving various difficult economic problems, especially with respect to the latest technology. For example, they play a significant role in designing and applying laser technology in medicine and the engineering industry. Army design engineers are very much involved in the modernization of mechanical and biological sewage treatment plants and, in particular, in the pioneering introduction of container purification plants. We have scored achievements in the first stages of introducing wind- and water-powered power generating plants.

We are helping the public health service as much as possible. In 1998 alone, army blood-donors provided 150,000 liters of blood, which is more than 28 percent of the total amount for the country as a whole. The military medical service provides hospital facilities for about 39,000 patients from outside the defense ministry annually. The military's involvement in the construction of the Center for the Health of the Polish Mother is of particular social valuable.

The Army is also broadly participating in developing and publicizing the national culture. We are successfully performing the tasks that stem from the "Program To Develop Culture in the Armed Forces," especially within the framework of the soldier's cultural education program. Allow me to mention the rich repertoire of our publishing house, the artistically interesting and profoundly patriotic programs of our professional stage acts, or the exhibitions at Warsaw's Zacheta Hall sponsored by us. The last two exhibitions—"Soldierly Duty" and "The Colors of Polish Warfare"—were regarded as major events in the country's cultural life.

I wish to stress very strongly that problems of Poland's defense and its socioeconomic development are our joint patriotic duty, for we only have one joint fatherland. That is why everything we do as an army must serve and will serve the nation.

[Reperowicz] What will happen if the other side fails to respond to the socialist states' disarmament challenge?

[Siwicki] This would cause great harm to the great cause of international detente. Unfortunately, given the present state of disarmament talks, one cannot rule this out. We have had ebbs and tides of international tension since the war.

Nevertheless, one should bear in mind that essentially the present situation is very different from all earlier ones. Everyone already realizes the irrationality of a nuclear war, and not only a nuclear war; and realizes that it is impossible to resolve international differences by means of weapons. In addition, security on an international level is so strongly connected with political and economic cooperation that it would be difficult to act in the opposite direction.

In our assessment of the situation, we must be guided by realism, especially because force has still not been excluded from NATO's politics. This realism provides us with the duty to maintain a defense capability appropriate to the scale of the potential threat.

However, there is one thing that can be said. A failure to answer the disarmament challenge would be very harmful for all states on both sides of the dividing line.

It is too early to draw final conclusions. However, I would like to be an optimist and believe that common sense, new thinking about equal security, and modern man's spirit of survival will prevail.

[Reperowicz] Thank you for the interview, Comrade General.

Sejm Committee Discusses Defense Budget

LD0601232889 Warsaw PAP in English
2234 GMT 6 Jan 89

[Text] Warsaw, Jan. 6—The Sejm National Defence Committee held a meeting here Friday presided over by Deputy Henryk Jablonski to examine a part of the draft budget law for 1989 that concerns the National Defence Ministry. The committee also heard a report by National Defence Minister Florian Siwicki on the tasks and directions of activity of his ministry this year.

The draft envisages 954 billion zlotys being assigned for national defence purposes, with the figure being lower by 4 per cent against last year's sum. These expenditures will constitute 5.5 per cent of the state budget and will be lower than those in 1988 (7.7 per cent).

The Committee adopted the above part of the draft and highly assessed the activity of the National Defence Ministry aimed to restructure the Armed Forces by cutting the number of soldiers while improving their professional skill and taking numerous actions streamlining the military life in Poland.

According to the Committee, the introduced cuts in supply of military and technical equipment, materials and articles of general use, closely linked with the effects of rational and economical managing of Army's property and budget means, make it possible to fulfil satifactorily the defence tasks. meanwhile, the lower demand for military techniques makes it possible to use vacant potential of defence industry enterprises for market production purposes.

In the wake of the meeting, Jablonski told newsmen that the Committee fully approved of the National Defence Ministry's stance on restructuring the Armed Forces but were worried about how all this would proceed so as not to undermine the country's defences. The Committee said it will be necessary to improve the technical and training means and to restructure the training methods. Let us not weaken the country's defensive power by making cuts in expenditure and number of soldiers and by removing a big part of military equipment, he said.

Jablonski also refered to deputies' remarks concerning pays for Army men that were much lower in 1988 than those earned by the civilian population. The Committee has directed an appropriate desideratum to the government. Speaking about reserves that appeared in the defence industry, Jablonski said that the Committee decided to use them in line with the established priorities: the food economy and housing construction.

Walesa Interviewed on State's Changes, Problems

LD0801150889 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish
1200 GMT 8 Jan 89

[Text] POLITYKA prints an extensive interview with Lech Walesa in its latest issue. Here are some excerpts:

[POLITYKA]: Several weeks ago, probably in connection with the roundtable, you said: It is either a huge game in which, once again, the wish is to outmaneuver Walesa, or else it is the opening of a new chapter of Polish history. What do you think today? Is it a game or a new phase after all?

[Walesa] Even if it is a game, it brings positive results. We are coming out of this torpor a little bit, to a very small degree. I am convinced that some new phase is commencing, although this does not yet have practical results. For the moment there are opportunities.

[POLITYKA] So something in the climate is changing for the better. How do you regard the past 7 years? What have both sides—government and public—learned during this time? How have they changed?

[Walesa] I will reply slightly differently. I regard what happened on 13 December 1981 as a bad thing, but that is already history. If we seriously want to talk about 13 December, then I propose that both sides delegate several—at best three-five historians—and let them have a public discussion on the subject of the meaning of what happened. My job is the solution of new problems. I am not a historian.

[POLITYKA] Well, alright. Let's suspend the discussion on what was. We want to return to the question: What, in your opinion, has changed during this time on both sides?

[Walesa] I said that I, too, do not want to return to the past at the moment. I am a person inclined toward the future. I push what was away from myself in order to have a clear head. What has changed? The authorities have become convinced that nothing can be done in Poland without agreement, while the public has also become convinced that it won't get very far without the authorities. Poles are searching for things which are possible, what the authorities agree to, and what society agrees to. We already mutually agree on certain things. They show up like flowers, only there is the question—are these buds a prognosis of real reform? During the past 8 years, a battle ensued over what was possible and what was necessary. That is why I do not regard it as completely wasted time, although it may be wasted if we do not exploit our opportunity, if something or someone hinders us.

[POLITYKA] You said yourself that we have a state of impotence, torpor, and frustration in Poland. And when we speak to people belonging to the circle of your closest advisers, they often say that even if Solidarity were now to take power in Poland, it, too, would probably be incapable of leading the country out of this depression.

[Walesa] Gentlemen, nothing can be sorted out here through force or revolution. This is a process which begins with freedom. Competent and clever people must be given the opportunity of planning and operating.

Conditions of social control and a little more democracy must be created. Then let us find the best solutions, let us appoint quick reaction groups, which will facilitate leading Poland to those pluralisms—the trade union, economic, and political ones. Only then will we not argue over whether it is socialist pluralism or some other type. [passage indistinct]. We are threatened with anarchy and destruction. What do we do so that there will not be a wave of revindication which will destroy everything? And yet, maybe the country can afford this revindication. This is the best route, really not much is needed. The situation is bad because everyone has too little initiative. If everyone separately—the pope, the primate, Walesa, or the government—should urge, dearest, let's get to work, let's create order in the country, then the effects would be considerably smaller than if we all said it together. This was said by Lech Walesa in conversation with POLITYKA journalists. The title of the publication: "Why we Must Come to an Understanding."

Paper Assesses Walesa POLITYKA Interview

LD0901121289 Warsaw PAP in English 1107 GMT 9 Jan 89

[Text] Warsaw, Jan. 9—Commenting on Lech Walesa's interview for the "POLITYKA" weekly, the party daily TRYBUNA LUDU today writes in part:

"What is interesting is not only what was said but also what was not said.

"Walesa has for long been known as a master of dodging issues in talks which faculty he demonstrated several times also in this case. He skillfully evaded, for instance, assessing past political experience, referring his interlocutors to...historians. He did not reply clearly—even though he was pressed very strongly on this matter—to the question of guarantees for the 'round table' talks on the part of 'Solidarnosc.'

"There are however in this interview—apart from everything said—matters otherwise not sufficiently specified which give one much to think about. One of them is the vision of the 'system' which, according to Walesa, the movement represented by him aims at.

"Another important insufficiently specified matter in this interview is the warning appearing here and there against 'violence and blood' and even some 'revolution' if the authorities do not behave according to the wishes of rebellious milieus of the 'Solidarnosc' movement over which—Walesa confesses—he can hardly wield control.

"These are somewhat surprising moments in this, on the whole, serious discussion, ones which do not match its basic contents or the said conciliatory tone. The statement that 'we do not want to become an Afghanistan' could be pleasing but this comparison must extremely surprise one if one has but an elementary understanding of the general picture of social stands in the country in which confrontational stands take up a small margin. Fortunately, already in the next sentence Walesa states sensibly: 'We will meet on the road of reforms because there is no other way out.'

"We have been waiting for Walesa and his advocates on his road for a long time," the paper concluded.

New Catholic Student Group Registered

LD0701201589 Vatican City International Service in Polish 1515 GMT 7 Jan 89

[Excerpt] Warsaw—On 28 December 1988 the Socio-Administrative Department of the Warsaw Municipal Office registered the Catholic Association of Student Youth [Stowarzyszenie Katolickiej Mlodziezy Akademickiej] which, as of that date, obtained legal status. The association members includes students and pupils from training colleges in Warsaw; Warsaw voivodship; and Konin, Lodz, Piotrkow, Ostroleka, Plock, Radom, Siedlce, and Skierniewice voivodships. It is active at higher education establishments and training colleges, where it is establishing its circles.

According to its statute, the aim of the association is to form individual and social attitudes of students according to the principles voiced by the Catholic Church in order to popularize their involvement in the life of the student community, the nation, and society through the dissemination of Christian ethical principles concerning the individual, family, social and state life, participation in public life according to Catholic social teachings, self-education and upbringing in accordance with Polish religious and national tradition, and the promotion of Christian culture. [passage omitted]

Minister on Import-Export Imbalance

LD0501213089 Warsaw PAP in English 2044 GMT 5 Jan 89

[Text] Warsaw, Jan. 5—Minister for Foreign Economic Relations Dominik Jastrzebski, addressing today's meeting of a Sejm committee responsible for such relations, said that last year's exports to CMEA countries totalled 11.4 billion roubles and imports—10.9 billion roubles. Exports in convertible currencies amounted to 8.1-8.3 billion dollars, and imports—to 6.9-7.1 billion dollars (the final calculation has not yet been made)

This year's plan is expected to envisage a 9.1-billion-dollar worth of exports to capitalist countries, whereas meeting the basic import needs would require exports reaching 15 billion dollars. This is currently impossible, and in view of slim chances for big credits from Western governments or financial institutions enterprises should try and draw credits from private firms in the West, Jastrzebski said.

U.S. Downing of Libyan Planes Condemned

AU0701170389 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1030 GMT 7 Jan 89

["The International Waters, the Seas and Oceans—Free of Any Military Presence"—AGERPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES, 07/01/1989—Daily SCINTEIA comments on the recent events in the Mediterranean in an article that shows:

The actions of strength of the United States in the Mediterranean, the powerful concentration of warships and the downing by the U.S. Airforce of two Libyan planes, actions that stirred profound worry and disapproval with public opinion in Romania and all over the world, have called the attention again on one of the most topical issues—the use of the world's seas and oceans.

Socialist Romania, truthful to its principled policy, has most firmly declared against the armed actions, against the shows of strength in international waters, for the seas and oceans to be free of any military presence.

The evolution of international life, including the current grave events in the central Mediterranean, powerfully emphasize the truth stressed by Romania's president in the New Year message, that the world situation keeps being complex, contradictory and grave, with the war danger still obtaining. Such an assessment starts from the reality that the arms race is being intensified, that new weapons are amassed, nuclear in particular, and the policy of force, threat of force, blackmail and dictate against some states continues.

The military actions, the shows of strength in international waters can only fuel the tension, the worsening of the world situation. The more harmful are such manifestations in the Mediterranean, where there is a big concentration of warships, in the vicinity of the zone of conflict in the Middle East, one of the most persistent and gravest hotbeds of big dangers for general peace. Or, precisely at a time when new prospects have been opened to a peaceful, negotiated settlement of the situation in the region, that has been so hard tried, when a broad current of opinion has emerged in favour of holding an international conference of peace sponsored by the United Nations, measures are resorted to that can only render the issues even more complicated, the finding of just and durable solutions in keeping with the interests of all respective peoples even more difficult.

Firmly disapproving of such actions, Romania has considered that no reason can justify the retaliation, the actions of intimidation against independent and sovereign states. Considering the tremendous diversity of the world today, it is quite natural that the political, ideological stands of some states differ from those of other states. However, nobody can claim to establish what line should one state or another take and the least so to apply "sanctions", as such profoundly anachronical practices are in utter contradiction with the most elementary norms of international law. It is clear that those who assume such a role do it by virtue of the force they possess, of the missiles, of the aircraft carriers which they keep all over the world, meaning those who have not relinquished the "diplomacy of cannons" and for whom the seas and oceans are some kind of inland lakes where they can do what well pleases them.

Romania most firmly speaks up for the withdrawal of the foreign warships from the international waters, for the seas and oceans to be free of any military presence. This would accord with the requirements ever more clearly expressed by the peoples for the transformation of the seas and oceans into zones of peace and collaboration. As a matter of fact, it is well known that the movement has extended worldwide for the proclamation of seas and oceans as regions free of nuclear weapons and foreign military bases. The seas and oceans, just like the international air space, the outer space, make the common patrimony of mankind and they must remain open to all states.

Romania considers that one of the most topical requirements is the cessation of any action and show of strength in international waters, the endorsement of measures on a world plane conducive to the withdrawal of the fleets of the big powers, and the provision of the requisites for the seas and oceans to really become means of rapprochement and fertile collaboration among nations. The general interests of peace and detente require more than ever the entrenchment of the principles of international legality, the securing of a framework for the development of large relations, relying upon full equality, observance of national independence and sovereignty, renunciation of force and threat of force, upon every people's sacred right to freely choose its development path, to decide on its own destiny.

Settling Conflicts by Negotiations Urged

AU2712172188 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1615 GMT 27 Dec 88

["Negotiations To Settle Conflict Issues—Excerpts From a Commentary in SCINTEIA of 27 December"—AGERPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest AGERPRES 27/12/1988—The elimination of force and the negotiated settlement of disputes held and hold a central place in the theoretical and practical work, the international demarches of President Nicolae Ceausescu of Romania, for the establishment of new-type links of confidence, understanding and mutual respect among states. In his conception, the abolition of the policy of force and the peaceful resolution of all disputed issues are major imperatives of the international life, basic requirements of the contemporary development.

Romania has shown that the recourse to the armed forces greatly harms people, the international life, and in the nuclear era may endanger the very existence of mankind, and does not provide a viable settlement of litigations among states, but, on the contrary, aggravate the old differences and disputes and create others. Eventually, the attempts to solve issues [words indistinct] end in future conflicts.

In Romania's conception, the demand to peacefully solve conflicts derives from the fact that any local spark may extend to the entire planet, posing a peril of generalization, which would be, in fact a threat with nuclear holocaust.

This is why Romania and its president firmly believe that the only way of really and durably solving all litigious issues, in concordance with the principles of peaceful coexistence, of international law, in keeping with the interests of all states, the only rational alternative are negotiations.

In Romania's outlook, negotiations are largely applicable practically to any problem, from the achievement of disarmament to the establishment of a new international economic order and the settlement of national or regional disputes.

According to Romania's constructive vision which is constantly promoted, once started, negotiations should proceed in an atmosphere of esteem and respect, in a constructive spirit, and must not be used in any way as a screen for actions to get unilateral advantages or for other purposes. In keeping with this vision, even if solutions to the problems under discussion are not found in a certain period of time, discussions should not be discontinued, and no matter how long they may take, they are by far preferable to bloodshedding and damage caused by armed confrontations. Besides the directly concerned parties, other states may help bring positions nearer, advance proposals to pave the way for comprehensive and durable understandings.

Romania has welcomed the latest developments which give prospects for a peaceful settlement of various conflict situations in the world. In the Middle East the independent Palestinian state—Palestine was created and Romania recognized it and welcomed this decision as an important step along the path to a just settlement of the existing problems. The recognition of the UN resolutions, of the State of Israel included, provides better conditions for the convening of a UN-sponsored international conference with the participation of all interested parties and of the permanent members of the Security Council.

Romania also welcomed the cessation of hostilities between Iran and Iraq, hoping that both sides would work to find mutually acceptable solutions at the negotiations under the UN aegis, for the final settlement of the fierce conflict in the Gulf and the conclusion of a lasting peace.

In the same spirit, Romania supports the initiatives and negotiations for the peaceful resolution of the other issues, in Austral Africa—where recently the official representatives of Angola, Cuba and the Republic of South Africa signed accords on the settlement of the situation, proving the growing force of the method of negotiations—in Asia, North Africa, Central America, in the interests of the respective peoples, of the general cause of peace and security.

Ceausescu 29 Dec Speech to Well-Wishers

AU0401091089 Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian 30 Dec 88 pp 1, 3

["Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu's Speech" at a meeting with young well-wishers on 29 December in Bucharest]

[Text] Dear comrades and friends, my dear youth and children, members of the Union of Communist Youth, Pioneers, and Falcons of the Fatherland: To begin with, I would like to express my warmest thanks for the wishes for fresh and great achievements in the development of Socialist Romania which you extended to me, to our people.

It has become a tradition for us to meet in this square on each New Year's Eve to take a brief inventory of what we have achieved in the year drawing to a close and to look to the future toward what we must achieve in the coming year to ensure our homeland's constant elevation to the greatest heights of progress and civilization and to communism! (cheers, loud, prolonged applause; long chants of "Ceausescu - RCP!" "Ceausescu and the people!" "Ceausescu - Romania, our esteem and pride!" and "Ceausescu - youth!")

We may say that from the very beginning of our people's existence, that is, always on New Year's Eve, the Romanians met—in times of trouble and in good times—to wish each other fresh results, a better life, one without oppressors, and to wish each other to be free and masters in their country. Only socialism and only our glorious Communist Party have been able to secure these centuries-old aspirations of more than 2 millenia of the Romanians, namely to be free and masters in their own country! (cheers, loud applause; long chants of "Ceausescu - peace!")

It is good to preserve everything that is good in our people's glorious past; let us preserve this wonderful tradition, too, and let us always meet on New Year's Eve to discuss both what we have achieved and what has to be achieved. Only thus will we ensure our homeland's progress and future! Only by relying on our people's overall activity and on their past will we be able to build socialism and communism! (loud, prolonged cheers, applause; long chants of "Ceausescu - RCP!" and "Ceausescu and the people!")

We are concluding 1988 with important results in all areas of activity. We have traveled a new and important stretch toward the highest pinnacles of communist civilization. We have overcome numerous difficulties. There were also a number of shortfalls, but we have continued our march forward. As always, this march forward does not mean a stroll along a paved road. On the contrary, it means struggle, work, and overcoming difficulties. Only through struggle and work, and sometimes through sacrifice, even at the price of their own lives, were our predecessors, patriots, revolutionaries, and the Communists able to ensure the triumph of the socialist revolution, the triumph of socialism, freedom, and Romania's independence! (loud, prolonged cheers, applause; long chants of "Ceausescu - RCP!" and "Ceausescu and the people!")

Not long ago, at the end of November, at the great forum of workers revolutionary democracy, we took an inventory of our work and of the Romanian people's struggle during the years of socialist construction, and we reviewed our homeland's and our people's overall development. With complete satisfaction we noted that we have achieved noteworthy results and that socialism has demonstrated that it is the only society in which the people, masters of their destiny, are building the new and free life which they desire. What we have achieved in less than 40 years, especially in the wake of the Ninth RCP Congress, is much more than what was achieved throughout hundreds of years of foreign domination, of feudalism, and of capitalism. On the basis of facts, this demonstrates that only by eliminating exploitation, oppression, and foreign domination are people able to build a free, plentiful, and happy life! (loud cheers, applause; long chants of "Ceausescu and the people!" "Ceausescu - RCP!" and "Ceausescu - peace!")

Even the sun is brighter today, as if it wanted to say that it has pushed aside darkness and the clouds in order to be present at this excellent inventory of our people! Indeed, we are welcoming the new year on a sunny day, a day illuminated by fresh achievements, by our people's wonderful prospects for well-being and happiness, and for Romania's independence and sovereignty! (loud cheers, applause; long chants of "Ceausescu - RCP!" and "Ceausescu - Romania, protecting childhood!")

Everything we have achieved this year—as in fact throughout socialist construction—is the result of the policy promoted by our Communist Party. All this demonstrates the correctness of the policy and activity of our party—which is applying the general principles of scientific socialism and the general laws of development of the human society to the specific conditions in our country—and demonstrates the potential of our people.

This is why we have to constantly strengthen our Communist Party and its adamant unity—the guarantee of our march forward toward communism, well-being, and happiness. (loud cheers, applause; long chants of "Ceausescu - RCP!")

Everything we have achieved in Romania—in plants, cooperatives, schools, research institutes, cultural centers, hospitals, millions of dwellings, and in all the other areas—has been achieved through the work, great devotion, and heroism of the workers class, the peasantry, intelligentsia, and all working people, irrespective of nationality, through the work of men and women, of old and young people, children, and of all our people. The people themselves are the true authors of these achievements and of socialist construction, and, in fact, of Romania's overall development.

Now, at the end of this year, I want to express warmest thanks to the people and to convey to them the warmest congratulations for the great achievements attained this year, which is coming to an end, and to wish them ever new successes in the coming year in implementing the targets aimed at our homeland's constant development and at Romania's firm advance toward communism. (loud cheers, applause; long chants of "Ceausescu - a happy New Year!")

In a few days we will begin the new year. Here is this new year—a child, as there are millions of children in Romania who symbolize the new year. He is, indeed, very small. But undoubtedly he will grow big in 1989, and in years to come he will become a dignified son and citizen of Socialist Romania.

Let us see to it that the new year will bring us new achievements in implementing the programs of our homeland's development and that, indeed, the economy, science, culture, and the standard of living of our people will improve vigorously, so that by the end of 1989 Romania will have attained great achievements in all areas, and—as symbolized today—that by the end of 1989 the new year will have grown into a strong lad, who will demonstrate the creative capacity of the Romanian people, who are free and masters of their destiny; as well as the force represented by socialism when people resolutely apply the basic principles of socialism and when they are guided by a revolutionary party that is carrying high the banner of revolutionary struggle for independence, freedom, well-being, progress, and for communism! (loud applause, cheers; long chants of "Ceausescu - RCP!" "Ceausescu - peace!" and "Ceausescu - a happy New Year!")

However, in order to implement all these great targets we must work more effectively and must strengthen responsibility, order, and discipline even further. Each one at his workplace must work and do all he can to commendably fulfill all plans and programs for our homeland's socioeconomic progress. Each person's thoughts must always aim at raising our country to an ever higher level of civilization and well-being in order to serve—under any circumstances—the people, their freedom, and well-being.

To build socialism with the people and for the people means doing all we can to ensure the well-being and happiness of our people. Let us vigorously develop democratic forms of management, but let us also firmly apply the party decisions and the country's laws, which are an intrinsic part of our workers revolutionary democracy.

Let us strengthen the party and the unity of all our people within the Socialist Democracy and Unity Front!

I am calling on the workers class—the leading force in our society—to work with even greater determination and exactingness to achieve the best of industrial outputs next year, as well as the best of results in other sectors of activity.

I am calling on our wonderful peasantry, cooperative members, and on all those who are working in agriculture to see to it that the largest agricultural yields are achieved in 1989.

I am calling on men of science in education and culture to increase the contribution of science to our homeland's overall development.

Let us base all our activities on the most modern achievements of science, technology, and knowledge in general!

One cannot speak of socialism and communism without a high level of science and culture. We must see to it that, beginning already with next year, we will move toward implementing the target of molding people with a high scientific and cultural standard, a true revolutionary force of science and culture! Only in this way will we be able to ensure the victory of communism in Romania! (loud, prolonged cheers, applause; long chants of "Ceausescu - RCP!" and "Ceausescu and the people!")

I am specifically calling on youth and children—Communist youth, Pioneers, and Falcons of the Fatherland—to participate actively in all activities aimed at Romania's development. However, dear comrades and friends, I am calling on you to learn, learn, and learn again! You must thoroughly acquire the most modern achievements of science and technology and the ever-new knowledge of man and of humanity in all areas, so as to become thoroughly trained Romanian citizens with a high standard of knowledge in order to be able to tomorrow at your jobs ensure the implementation of all aspirations for our homeland's development, its constant progress, and the elevation of our entire nation to an increasingly higher level of civilization!

You have wonderful conditions, dear youth and children! Make use of all these wonderful conditions so that you are able to grow up in a dignified manner and freely, and so that you become dignified citizens of a free and independent country—of Socialist Romania! You are the future of Romania! Learn and learn again to ensure the happy future of our homeland! (loud, prolonged cheers, applause; long chants of "Ceausescu - youth!")

At the same time—and you should never forget this—you must learn and become acquainted with the history of struggle and the work of our people and with the history of the revolutionary struggle of our patriots, revolutionaries, and Communists! You must never forget that only by acting under any circumstances as revolutionaries will you be able to truly serve the Romanian people's interests in progress and development! You must become progressive men of science and culture; you must become revolutionaries with a high revolutionary idea, a high concept of work and struggle for what is new, for constantly perfecting all activities on a revolutionary basis and on the basis of socialist and communist principles. Only in this way will you be true citizens of a free and independent country! (prolonged cheers, applause; long chants of "We will work, we will learn - to elevate our homeland!")

Dear comrades and friends, dear youth and children of the Socialist Republic of Romania, the year we are concluding has been a year with profound changes in the international arena, in the international balance of forces. Certain steps have been taken—or rather a certain start has been made—to solve conflicts and the difficult problems through negotiations. However, we must frankly say that, on the whole, our people's expectations, as well as those of all peoples of the world, have not been completely fulfilled. The international situation continues to be quite complex and serious. And, above all, there is still the threat of a world war, which would inevitably turn into a nuclear war that would destroy life itself on our planet.

Therefore, in order to enjoy what we have achieved and what we propose to achieve, and in order to ensure that all peoples are able to focus their efforts on eliminating backwardness, on progress, and well-being, we need peace more than anything else. Only in conditions of peace will Romania and all nations of the world be able to focus their efforts on implementing their socioeconomic development programs.

We must achieve disarmament, and primarily nuclear disarmament! Let us build a world without weapons and wars! And, as one of our songs says, a world that will permit us and the whole of mankind to live freely under the sun, without nuclear weapons! (loud, prolonged cheers, applause; chants of "Ceausescu - peace!" and "Ceausescu and the people!")

Romania and our people will do all they can to contribute to achieving this aspiration of the whole of mankind, to achieve a united Europe in complete freedom, a Europe of free and independent nations, a Europe without weapons, and a Europe of peaceful cooperation. We advocate and work to ensure cooperation in the Balkans and the settlement of today's complicated problems

solely by negotiations. We want and will do all we can to contribute to tangible results in 1989 on the road to peace, cooperation, and socioeconomic progress.

We firmly advocate a new policy in international economic relations and the elimination of the division of the world into rich and poor. We want the developing countries to be able next year to achieve more significant progress on the road to economic development, and we want a complete halt to be put to their being exploited and robbed by foreign monopolies, by imperialism. We advocate a new international economic order.

We do not want only words but a real move to a new way of thinking, a new economic policy, and a new policy in the international arena; we advocate a complete halt in the policy of force, dictation, and of interference in the affairs of other states. Let us see to it that each nation, each people is the full master of its destiny; the threats and blackmail still practiced by some big powers in the international arena must stop. Only thus will we advance on the road to peace, cooperation, and toward a better and more just world! (loud cheers, applause; long chants of "Ceausescu - peace!")

For us, the Romanians, the symbol of the new year is a beautiful child, the way all children are in Romania. This probably is true for other peoples as well.

For the sake of these children, of the children throughout the world, and for the sake of their future, let us do all we can so that 1989 will mark a decisive beginning of disarmament, peace, and cooperation!

For the sake of children and life on our planet, let us struggle for peace! (loud, prolonged cheers, applause; long chants of "Ceausescu - peace!")

Dear comrades and friends, in preparing for the New Year, all of us in complete unity pledge to implement—starting with the 1st day and hour of the new year—the targets aimed at our homeland's development and to participate actively in the struggle for disarmament and peace! Let us pledge to do all we can next year, when we will welcome the 45th anniversary of the revolution for social and national liberation and when the 14th RCP Congress will be held, so that it will be a year—I repeat—characterized by the best of results in all areas! (loud, prolonged cheers, applause)

Let us ensure an improvement in the material and cultural standard of living of our people; let us attain new achievements in the firm progress toward our golden dream, toward the communist society! (loud, prolonged applause, cheers; long chants of "Ceausescu - RCP!")

I wish all citizens of Socialist Romania—old, young, children, men, and women—ever new achievements, fresh accomplishments in work and life, and a revolutionary spirit throughout their activity in order to ensure the constant progress of our socialist homeland! (loud, prolonged applause, cheers; long chants of "Ceausescu and the people!")

I want to extend to all of you and to all the citizens of our socialist homeland best wishes for good health and happiness!

A Happy New Year! (loud, prolonged applause, cheers; long chants of "Ceausescu - RCP!" "Ceausescu and the people!" "Ceausescu - youth!" and "Ceausescu - peace!" Thousands of young voices sing the song "A Happy New Year in Good Health!" addressed to Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, to Comrade Elena Ceausescu, and to the other comrades of our party and state leadership)

Ceausescu Chairs Meeting With Economic Cadres

AU0601211689 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 2000 GMT 6 Jan 89

[Text] At the initiative of RCP Secretary General Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, working meetings involving ministries and leading cadres in central departments, big industrial units, research institutes, and foreign trade enterprises were held today.

During the meetings, the activity of the 1988 plan fulfillment and measures that must be taken in order to appropriately fulfill the 1989 plan provisions were discussed. Following the discussions, under Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu's chairmanship, a working meeting was organized at the RCP Central Committee Headquarters, with all the leading cadres in ministries, central departments, and enterprises who participated in these discussions.

During the meeting, Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu noted the activity of fulfilling the 1988 plan, which, in general terms, concluded with good results, although below the level of the established programs. The RCP secretary general drew attention to the fact that at the end of 1988 some products earmarked for exports have not been completed, and he requested that all possible measures should be taken to complete these products in the shortest time possible and to deliver them in the first part of this year. Likewise, he requested that during the 1st quarter the customs formalities and delivery of the whole production earmarked for export should be concluded. Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu also stressed the need to take the most determined actions to appropriately fulfill the investment program for 1989. He recommended that during the first part of this quarter, all necessary measures should be taken to complete and put into operation all of last year's outstanding production capacities. During the meeting, the party secretary general requested firm measures, as of the first days of this

year, in order to fulfill all the plan provisions for January, the 1st quarter, and for all of 1989. He drew the particular attention of the leading cadres in ministries, central departments, enterprises, and research units to the need to ensure the unflinching implementation of the program for organizing and modernizing production, raising the technical level and quality of products, and firmly applying the norms for economic and financial expenditures aimed at increasing the economic efficiency of the whole activity. He requested that all units and every workplace observe the established measures and observe the consumption norms and ensure the continuous reduction of material, energy, and fuel consumption and the increase in labor productivity by making complete use of the production capacities and substantially reducing the total labor needed to manufacture each product. Stressing that the modernization of production and the continuous improvement of labor organization are essential for fulfilling the 1989 plan, Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu called on the leadership of ministries and enterprises to be permanently concerned with these issues, so that the activity of the 1st quarter, which is decisive for the appropriate fulfillment of the plan provisions for the whole year, ensures the necessary conditions for attaining the established objectives of the current 5-year plan period.

Noting that it is necessary to work in a new and revolutionary spirit, Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu requested that this new working spirit should be introduced into daily activity. The party secretary general said: We should not discuss the correctness or the incorrectness of the general line or whether we should or should not improve socialism. Socialism is wonderful, and its principles are wonderful because they ensure equality among people and ensure the elimination of exploitation and oppression. We should not return to forms of exploitation and oppression. This is not an issue of improving socialist construction, but rather the firm application of science and new technologies and the maintenance and development of the revolutionary spirit in our whole activity. This is the central issue of socialism which we must propose to ourselves and which we must commendably implement.

In conclusion, Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu requested that all these issues be widely discussed in general meetings and in the working people's councils, and that all units should thus mobilize workers and experts in an exemplary manner to successfully fulfill the plan provisions for the 1st quarter and for the whole year, to continuously develop the national economy, and, on this basis, to raise the material and cultural standard of living of our whole nation.

E. Ceausescu Honored With Birthday Celebration

AU0701150589 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1243 GMT 7 Jan 89

["Feting Academician Elena Ceausescu, D.Sc., on Her Birthday"—AGERPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES, 07/01/1989—Academician Elena Ceausescu, D.Sc., member of the Executive Political Committee of the CC of the RCP, first deputy prime minister of Romania, chairman of the National Council of Science and Education, was feted on Saturday, January 7, on her birthday and the celebration of her long revolutionary activity.

Together with Nicolae Ceausescu, general secretary of the RCP, president of Romania, the ceremony was attended by full and alternate members of the Executive Political Committee of the CC of the RCP, secretaries of the party's Central Committee, members of the State Council and of the government, heads of mass and public organizations, of central institutions.

During the ceremony, Emil Bobu, member of the Executive Political Committee, secretary of the CC of the RCP, read out the letter addressed to Mrs Elena Ceausescu by the Executive Political Committee of the CC of the RCP.

In token of homage and valuation, Academician Elena Ceausescu D.Sc., was conferred the supreme title of honour of "Hero of the Socialist Republic of Romania". Manea Manescu, member of the Executive Political Committee of the CC of the RCP, vice-president of the State Council, read out the resolution-decree and handed over the high distinction.

The attendance warmly congratulated the feted and wished her many and fruitful years of life, fresh successes in the highly responsible offices entrusted by the party and the people, good health and power to work.

An address was made by Mrs Elena Ceausescu at the ceremony, who thanked for the appreciations, feelings and good wishes expressed, for the high title awarded.

PEC Hosts Birthday Luncheon

AU0701164589 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1603 GMT 7 Jan 89

["Luncheon Given in Honor of Mrs Elena Ceausescu"—AGERPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES, 7/1/1989—The Executive Political Committee of the CC of the RCP, the State Council and the Government of Romania gave a luncheon on Saturday [7 January], in honour of Academician Elena Ceausescu, D.Sc., member of the Executive Political Committee of the CC of the RCP, first deputy prime minister, chairman of the National Council of Science and Education, on her birthday and the anniversary of her long revolutionary activity.

The guests included Nicolae Ceausescu, general secretary of the RCP, president of Romania, full and alternate members of the Executive Political Committee of the CC of the RCP, secretaries of the party's Central Committee, members of the State Council and of the government.

The attendance extended to the feted in that frame as well warmest congratulations and wishes of long life, good health and full power to work, of fresh successes in her activity on the leadership of the RCP and Romanian state.

Mrs Elena Ceausescu thanked for the good wishes and congratulations.

Leaders' Public Appearances for 31 Dec-7 Jan

AU0701190189 [Editorial Report] Romanian media report the following public appearances of Romanian leaders during the period of 31 December-7 January (source of each report given in parentheses):

Lina Ciobanu, PEC member and deputy prime minister; Gheorghe Oprea, PEC member and first deputy prime minister; and Ion Stoian, PEC candidate member and secretary of the RCP Central Committee, attended a National Day reception at the Cuban Embassy in Bucharest on 6 January 1989. (Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1941 GMT 6 Jan 89)

Nicolae Ceausescu, RCP secretary general and president of Romania, delivered his traditional New Year's message on 31 December. (Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 2130 GMT 31 Dec 88) He chaired a working meeting with leading economic cadres in Bucharest on 6 January. (Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 2000 GMT 6 Jan 89)

Lina Ciobanu, PEC member and deputy prime minister, met with Cuban leader Fidel Castro Ruz in Havana on 4 January. (Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1950 GMT 4 Jan 89)

Ion Sirbu, secretary of the RCP Central Committee, met with the general secretary of the Indian Communist Party in New Delhi on 3 January 1989. (Bucharest AGERPRES in English 2015 GMT 3 Jan 89)

PRC's Qian Qichen's Visit Draws to Close

Speaks on Taiwan, USSR Ties

LD0601180689 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1643 GMT 6 Jan 89

[Text] Belgrade, Jan 6 (TANJUG)—Peace and development are the leading tendencies of our times, Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen stated in a lecture at the Yugoslav Centre for Strategic Research in Belgrade today.

He noted, however, that the danger of war has still not passed.

According to Qian, peaceful forces have grown and their activities make more enduring peace possible.

Assessing the prospects for peace, the Chinese foreign minister noted that rivalry between the United States and the Soviet Union has not stopped and that it will continue in other forms. He also said that not one regional crisis has been resolved completely and that the eruption of new ones was possible.

Concerning China's relations with the United States, Qian said they were good and stable, thanks to mutual efforts. They would develop even more favourably, if there was no Taiwan impediment and on condition that the principle of non-interference was respected, he said.

Assessing relations with the Soviet Union, Qian stated that progress has been achieved in some questions, while differences remain in others. According to him, conditions are ripe for a visit by Soviet state and party leader Mikhail Gorbachev to China in the first half of the year. The Chinese foreign minister described the two countries' relations as "normal and goodneighbourly" i.e. neither "allied" nor "competitive and confrontational."

Qian described the strengthening of cooperation with the developing countries as the "basis of Chinese foreign policy." In his view, the influence of the two superpowers in world affairs is declining to the advantage of Europe, Japan, the developing and the nonaligned countries.

Yugoslavia has given a large contribution to the movement of nonalignment and enjoys a major reputation both in the movement and outside it, as affirmed by the fact that the nonaligned summit will be convened in Belgrade next year, Qian stated.

Received by Suvar

LD0601153889 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1402 GMT 6 Jan 89

[Text] Belgrade, 6 Jan (TANJUG)—Stipe Suvar, president of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, today received Qian Qichen, a member of the Chinese Communist Party Central Committee and PRC foreign minister.

The cordial and friendly talks, also attended by Ma Xusheng, the PRC ambassador to the SFRY, focused on domestic activities in the two countries, reform measures which are under way both in the LCY and the Chinese Communist Party and mutual cooperation. Qian Qichen conveyed to Suvar the cordial greetings of Zhao Ziyang, the general secretary of the Chinese Communist Party Central Committee.

Leaves for Paris With Loncar

LD0601170289 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1619 GMT 6 Jan 89

[Text] Belgrade 6 Jan (TANJUG) Foreign ministers of Yugoslavia and China, Budimir Loncar and Qian Qichen, left Belgrade by plane this afternoon for Paris.

They are traveling to attend conference of countries which are parties of the Geneva Protocol and other interested countries (about the ban on the use of chemical and bacteriological weapons in war), which will be held tomorrow in the French capital.

The departure from Belgrade ended a 3-day official visit to Yugoslavia by the Chinese foreign minister.

Loncar and Qichen were seen off at the airport by officials of the Federal Secretariat for Foreign Affairs, headed by the Deputy Foreign Secretary Milivoje Maksic.

UN Envoy Speaks on Libyan Plane Incident

LD0601223089 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2150 GMT 6 Jan 89

[Text] United Nations, Jan 6 (TANJUG)—Yugoslavia learned with great concern and anxiety of the incident in which the U.S. Armed Forces downed two Libyan planes, Yugoslav delegate to the United Nations Dragoslav Pejic said today.

Addressing a session of the U.N. Security Council convened at Libya's request, Ambassador Pejic said that it was particularly disturbing that the incident had occurred at the time of a significant improvement in international relations.

Unfortunately, the atmosphere of an easing of tensions has not affected in any perceptible manner the situation in some parts of the Mediterranean, where focuses of instability still exist due to continuous efforts by non-Mediterranean powers to increase their presence and influence in the region, he said.

Yugoslavia views as unacceptable that questions outstanding, including unsubstantiated claims, should be used as an excuse for interference in the internal affairs of sovereign countries, Ambassador Pejic said. In this context, Yugoslavia believes that the downing of the Libyan planes will aggravate the international situation, Ambassador Pejic added.

Threats of force, pressure and intimidation, as well as threats to the security of other countries, are not and cannot be the way to settle open questions, the Yugoslav delegate said. Yugoslavia, as a nonaligned and Mediterranean country, believes that what a sensitive area such as the Mediterranean needs today is not armed actions, but joint efforts to transform the region into a zone of peace and cooperation, he concluded.

United States in 'Risky Game' With Libya

AU0801183389 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0900 GMT 8 Jan 89

[Milutin Milenkovic commentary from the "Sunday at 10" program]

[Text] The preparations for a very ambitious and special world conference on banning chemical and bacteriological weapons were a good opportunity for the United State to reactivate its military-political pressure on Libya. If the production and improvements in the production of the means of the mass destruction of people, entire geopolitical areas, and countries, are not halted, the world has many reasons to be anxious about the survival of the mankind.

In this general climate Washington came to the conclusion that the construction of a chemical plant in a Libyan town named Al-Rabitah represents a good reason for yet another clash with the indeed undesirable partner Colonel Al-Qadhdhafi. The logical connection between this anti-Libyan activity and the U.S. attempts to explain to the international public the necessity for this kind of action broke down very quickly. The gaps between the above-mentioned aim and the applied methods pointed out that there may be other, perhaps more important aims that have not been mentioned but could be guessed at.

What is illogical about it all is the following: Libya immediately stated that it would accept an international expert inspection of the suspected factory claiming that the plant is intended for the production of pharmaceuticals rather than chemical warfare agents. The U.S. side does not believe that a proper inspection of the production program is possible because the same production lines could be used for completely peaceful purposes and then adapted for the production of large amounts of lethal substances.

In any case, the method, frequency, and the kind of a possible inspection could have been discussed and negotiated either under UN auspices or within a narrower circle of the immediately affected countries. Instead of this, the U.S. navy held the so-called usual exercises near the Libyan coast, as was the case in the past when similar tensions have ended in serious incidents which involved many human victims and caused much political damage to relations between the United States and its partners. The U.S. aircraft carrier was again keeping an eye on Libyan fighter planes and this led to a clash between Libyan planes and the planes from the J.F. Kennedy aircraft carrier. The result is already known: a short air skirmish and two Libyan Mig's shot down, and much longer and more serious political consequences.

In view of anxiety expressed all over the world, among U.S. allies, too, the bitterness in a great number of Arab, socialist, and nonaligned countries, and great worry among and protest by the Mediterranean countries, Washington's reaction was to calm down the crisis. It claimed that the naval exercises did not have anything to do with the chemical plant, which is to say that the military force was not used as a threat to another country. It stated the air incident was an isolated case, that it was a finished act, and that it was therefore not a stage in some bigger operation.

The fleet, including the aircraft carrier, withdrew to the Levant. The J.F. Kennedy aircraft dropped its anchors in Haifa, Israel.

This revealed an additional if not the prime essence of the whole strategic-political game involving Libya. This is what it means:

After agreeing to hold talks with the PLO and openly saying that Israel must start negotiations on the rights of the Palestinian peoples, Washington lost some of its influence among Israel's right. The pro-Israeli lobby in the United States, together with the Israeli Government, claim that in recent weeks U.S. policy has leaned too much toward the Arabs which is, according to them, a great mistake as well as a danger for the permanent U.S. interests in the Mediterranean. In order to reestablish the U.S. influence in Israel with as little loss as possible in Arab countries, the United States decided to exert a decisive pressure on Libya. Libya's leadership has many opponents in the Arab world and Africa, let alone West Europe and the United States, and, as was assumed, would enjoy a relatively little support from those directions. This would also represent fresh and convincing proof to Israel and the Jews that the United States has not become less ready to act in the Mediterranean to curb Arab extremism and protect Israel's safety.

One could therefore say that the waters of the Mediterranean were disturbed by one superpower's strategy of exerting symmetrical influence. In other words, the wish of the United States not to lose the old positions in Israel by winning new ones among the Palestinians and Arabs in general. It is too early to say whether this maneuver will succeed or whether it will be more damaging than beneficial. In any case it is a very risky game.

Eagleburger, Scowcroft Appointments Noted

AU0801164689 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 8 Jan 89

[Text] The newly elected president of the United States, George Bush, appointed several new people to prominent posts in the future U.S. Government. According to

the U.S. press, Bush appointed a prominent expert on international relations Lawrence Eagleburger, as the new deputy head of the State Department.

During the first mandate of the Reagan administration Eagleburger was an assistant secretary and an under secretary in the State Department. During President Carter's administration he was ambassador to Yugoslavia. He is remembered as one of the most able U.S. ambassadors to Belgrade and as a person who had done much for improving relations between Washington and Belgrade.

Among other prominent people in the new U.S. Administration is General Scowcroft who has been appointed as national security adviser. He was in Belgrade between 1959 and 1961 as an assistant to the U.S. military attache.

Arms Cache Found in Car by Border Guards

LD0801155089 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1208 GMT 8 Jan 89

[Excerpts] Sarajevo, 8 Jan (TANJUG)—The Bosnia-Hercegovina Republican Secretariat for Internal Affairs stopped a channel for bringing terrorist material into the country, which presents a significant contribution to the struggle against international terrorism. Today journalists were informed about the action by the Bosnia-Hercegovina Republican Secretariat for Internal Affairs. They were also shown confiscated arms and ammunition, the latest in terrorist armaments.

The journalists were informed that when entering the country before New Year holidays, a U.S.-made automatic rifle, five pistols, 450 bullets of various caliber, and 3 knives were found in a car being driven by a Yugoslav citizen.

Working on this case, the security services of the SR Of Bosnia-Hercegovina found in the citizen's house—with whom his relatives travelled—four more pistols, eight revolvers, and 898 bullets. These are the types of arms and ammunition used most frequently by terrorists: Pistols with silencers; bullets with tear gas; high-velocity revolvers; ammunition of different calibers, and destructive power; plastic shotguns [Sacma] and ammunition.

On the basis of this and previous experience, it can be said that generally terrorism is essentially international in character, and its protagonists have different profiles, from the members of terrorist emigre organizations, to ordinary criminals and adventurists. [passage omitted]

Muhamed Besic, Bosnia-Hercegovina Secretary for Internal Affairs, said on the occasion of halting a terrorist channel, that as soon as the investigation is over, names of persons who brought ammunition into our country would be announced. Then it would also become known who is behind this terrorist action and its main aim.

New Association Expected To Be Founded in Zagreb

AU0801195489 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1800 GMT 8 Jan 89

[Vesna Knezevic report]

[Text] The founding of the Association for Yugoslav Democratic Initiative [Udruzenje za Jugoslovensku Demokratsku Inicijativu] will take place in the club of university professors in Zagreb on 10 January. Here is a report from Zagreb by Vesna Knezevic:

Those who have carefully been following the Croatian LC Central Committee plenums over the past few years, especially since the last congress in 1986, could see that a line of ideological and program pluralism was gaining increasing importance. This line was never the Slovene kind of political pluralism, although, in the case of Zagreb, the difference was only few shades closer to the core of the party program. After all, citing the LC program of 1958 was used as the shortest and the most frequent explanation in all the suppositions of ideological pluralism. This is why the founding of the Association for Yugoslav Democratic Initiative in Zagreb on 10 January has a lot in common with numerous demands for pluralism heard in a section of the Croatian party.

The Croatian LC is not mentioned anywhere. It is mentioned in neither the Statue of the new association nor in the interview which Predrag Matvejevic, the most probable president of the Association, granted to the latest issue of the biweekly magazine START. However, it would be naive to believe that the party is not involved and that it is not involved to a great extent, at least for the time being.

Professors Predrag Vranitcki and Branko Horvat have been mentioned as the initiators of this organization as well as godfathers who proposed the name, although the name of the third man, a man from the Croatian party, has also unofficially been mentioned. The name is, of course, not a secret but considering that it has not been checked yet, it would be better to wait until Tuesday.

Who else is in the Association? They are Rudi Supek, Rada Ivekovic, Jovan Milic, and Ivan Kuvacic. The people invited from Belgrade are: Bogdan Bogdanovic, Latinka Perovic, Milorad Pecujlic and as, Predrag Matvejevic said, other intellectuals who have remained close to the current ruling political party.

The following will be invited from Slovenia: Veljko Rus, Aleksandar Bajt, and Ljubo Bavcon. Intellectuals from other parts of Yugoslavia will also be invited.

The Association for Yugoslav Democratic Initiative, which is also being called the Group for Yugoslavia [Grupa za Jugoslaviaju] will also be open to others. The Association's Statute, which is about one and ½ pages long, states that the aim of the Association is to democratically integrate Yugoslavia, to integrate it on the

scientific, cultural, and political basis, on the basis of self-managing socialism with the full respect for human rights and freedoms as well as national self-being [samobitnost] of the citizens. All adult Yugoslav citizens who have not compromised themselves through national chauvinism are eligible for membership . New members of the Association are proposed by two members of the Association who have to guarantee compliance with the above-mentioned condition. Moreover, the statute states that the Association has its management [uprava] and council, and could have sections for certain activities, local councils, and a youth section.

What will the Group for Yugoslavia be engaged in?

It will organize public discussions on topical issues concerning social life in Yugoslavia, it will publish public statements concerning certain events in the country, and it will send its proposals to the state and political organs. It will also publish a magazine, SCIENCIA YUGOSLAVICA.

The fact that many things are still unclear is demonstrated by telephone conversation with some members of the new association. None of them would talk about it as a new party. While we jointly live in a joint country we should do our best to preserve the dignity of this togetherness, one of them said. It appears that a more open conversation is being avoided not because something is being concealed, but because at present this is more of a general idea rather than the locked away concrete programs. Professor Vranicky openly admitted this. We do not know what our activities will be like. We will only see when the association starts to work, Vranicki said.

So we will have the Association for Yugoslav Democratic Initiative in Zagreb on Tuesday and the Slovene Democratic Union in Ljubljana on Wednesday. After all, more will be known on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Foreign Debt, Creditor Status Reviewed

LD0801181389 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1035 GMT 8 Jan 89

[By Dragoslav Markovic]

[Text] Belgrade, Jan 8 (TANJUG)—Yugoslavia, whose current foreign debt stands at some 20 billion dollars, itself claims some 4 billion dollars from its debtors, mostly developing countries. The claims of Yugoslav firms from their debtors virtually equal Yugoslavia's annual dues on interests and its consolidated foreign debt.

Yugoslavia's total claims in hard currency have stood for several years at 3 billion dollars to 3.8 billion dollars. Credits granted through the specialised Yugoslav Bank for International Cooperation which finances the export of equipment and the carrying out of investment projects abroad make up 56 per cent of Yugoslavia's claims. The rest are projects contracted under cash payments.

The majority of dues—some 80 per cent—are from African, primarily Arab countries. Officials in Belgrade expect that the biggest debtors will repay their debts after the normalisation of oil prices on the world market and the termination of the Iraqi-Iranian war.

In order to fulfill its claims which often burden relations with its debtor-countries, Yugoslavia has been making various proposals, from drastic urgent measures, such as contacting the usual international institutions for debt repayments, to calmer, certainly more constructive steps, beneficial for future economic relations with these countries.

It has been stated in the Yugoslav National Assembly that the state should let qualified firms contract business deals abroad, that is, to stop its hitherto commercial role. The Federal Assembly assesses that demands that financial dues are met does not automatically mean a deterioration of friendship and cooperation with the debtor-countries.

Yugoslav firms, as well as the government, are currently seeking a new concept for trade and economic cooperation with developing countries also because of the fact that out of overall trade with the world the trade with these countries has dropped from 17.5 per cent five years ago to some 13 per cent today.

An urgent turnabout is necessary also because Yugoslav claims from developing countries are annually increasing by some 4 per cent, while the still unpayed total is rising by 10 per cent. Economists assess that the current state only guarantees an increase in the drain of the social capital of the already impoverished Yugoslavia.

Bohinc on Indispensability of Money Market

AU0401213289 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 28 Dec 88 p 5

[Article by Dr Radoslav Bohinc, federal secretary for the economy: "Indispensability of a Money Market"]

[Text] An analysis of experiences of our past, or even better of developed countries, brings very similar results: Economic growth, stable prices, and full employment are opposed to budget equilibrium. The uncovered foreign exchange losses are reaching the level of our foreign debt, and the accounts of the federation cannot be closed without the budget exerting an inflationary influence. The entitlements set by planning acts, laws, and accords are very difficult to "suspend." This is confirmed by the discussion colored by interests at various levels, in which there is agreement on one point only: that the proposed budgetary spending is high, and in this connection, that its sources, by the nature of things, are inflationary to a greater or lesser extent. The original revenues of the federation are insufficient because of the low level of

economic activity, and therefore the tax rates are high, and in addition almost all the revenue (even that which aims at eliminating the exchange rate disparity) has assumed a fiscal nature.

Public Debt Policy

The existence of a high volume of foreign exchange losses and the problems of constructing a non-inflationary budget demand radical solutions which in their essence will proceed from the need for a faster economic growth, stability of prices, and growth of employment. Such goals, as is shown by analyses of various experiences, are opposed to the position that a balanced budget should be taken as an aim of economic policy. As a rule, the budget is more balanced in periods of high employment, but it runs into deficits during periods of stagnation and recession.

The proposal has been made that the cumulative foreign exchange losses should be transformed into federal debt, to which current accounting machinery should be applied accordingly. Along with this proposal, the question of providing the necessary revenue for regular servicing of this debt also appears. The main problem, turning the accumulated debt into money, arises precisely here, on the question of debt servicing. The deficit must be financed through additional borrowing, this must be clear. Theoretically this is possible from abroad, or from domestic banks, or the central bank, or the money market. However, what remains for us in practice is the resort to the money market, or to put it simply, state securities.

The public debt policy, "debt management," [phrase published in English] must ensure the overall equilibrium and stability of the economy through the volume and structure of debt. Along with the existing foreign exchange obligations, this policy must be directed toward restructuring the foreign debt under more favorable conditions, stabilizing the foreign exchange savings of our citizens, and introducing marketable (new) forms of state debt (state bonds), through which the spectrum of state debt forms is expanded with new financial instruments and at the same time is adjusted to economic criteria. It is of special importance here that, under inflationary conditions and under the ever-present certain level of disequilibrium of economic policy, the form of the state debt should be gradually changed into state bonds. This means that federal bonds should be issued at once for a part of the debt, and their volume should gradually increase—one should objectively reckon with conservativism of all the structures—until the advantages of this kind of financing are understood once and for all. Austria, for instance, which is among the fiscally most unbalanced countries, replaces 93 percent of the debt's principal by issuing new debt. There are no arguments that would objectively show that this could not be applied under our circumstances.

The Ways of Bonds

In any case, one must reduce the burden pressing on the economy by reducing non-customs duties, a greater share of the economy in income, and so forth. The federation will thus remain without a part of the funds that it has been collecting, and in addition one should transfer to it the accrued foreign exchange losses. Federal bonds must be issued for a portion of the funds lacking in financing budgetary spending and a portion of the uncovered foreign exchange losses. This would provide the funds for the financing of federal spending that are short, and at the same time another instrument for settling payments would appear on the securities market, which is in conformity with the reform orientation. In addition, this would "mop up" the surplus of effective demand (available money) at the disposal of the sociopolitical communities and persons.

The interest that should be offered must be realistically positive and higher than the interest offered by the banks on time deposits. In addition, appropriate regulations should envisage some benefits for the bond holders, such as granting loans by the banks, paying some commitments, and the like. However, as the bonds are a money substitute, one must take care that by granting the benefits one does not "close the money circulation" without money—i.e., return the bonds to the federation—for the aim of the bonds is to transfer the purchasing power from one holder to another. In addition to citizens who would buy and sell bonds at bank counters, as well as among themselves, work organizations should be enabled to deposit bonds, instead of a bill of exchange or cash, as a security for a deposit, and the banks should be enabled to use these funds, in addition to their free funds, for buying bonds instead of voluntary certificates of deposit with the National Bank of Yugoslavia.

The open questions in these musings are tied directly to the maturity dates of the bonds. If the bonds are issued to mature after more than 1 year, the opportunity is provided for realizing a budget revenue in the first year without having to provide funds for servicing the bonds, except the costs of issue and distribution. However, if the bonds are issued for a shorter term to maturity, the budget expenditure during the year would be increased by the costs of redemption, issue, distribution, and the like. This, in fact, is the chief argument against the introduction of bonds for financing federal commitments. Considering that the introduction of bonds is not meant to aggravate even more the problems of financing, to increase the debt, and to impose an additional burden on the economy through budget commitments, one must bear in mind that to keep the economy in its present material condition and under its present burden means inflation that, if a "neutral economic policy" is conducted, will exceed 350 percent in the fourth quarter next year as compared with the fourth quarter this year. At the same time, production could not reach this year's level, which means that real social product could be lower than this year. It is indisputable that this will slow

down the processes of restructuring the economy, weaken the factors that provide a motivation for work, and make a recovery more difficult.

However, because an easing of the burden of the economy would contribute to a radical slashing of the interest rates through slowing down the rate of inflation and through large accumulative effects, this would in turn gradually reduce the proportion of the principal and interest payments in the gross national income or federal expenditure. When assessing its justification, it is improper to consider only the expenditure side of the budget under the present or similar conditions without taking into account the additional effects of the growth of production, lowering of the rates of inflation and of the interest rates, an increase in taxable basis, and the like.

Rijeka Radio Workers Begin 1-Day Strike

LD0601150689 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1246 GMT 6 Jan 89

[Summary] Rijeka, 6 Jan (TANJUG)—Employees at Radio Rijeka began a 1-day strike today in support of a pay rise. Programs will be replaced by music and advertisements. Average personal incomes at the radio station are 650,000 dinars, though it is considered that editors and technicians should not receive less than 1.5-2 million dinars. The workers are demanding that the question of the responsibility of the Radio Zagreb director and the chairman of the Radio Zagreb Worker's Council be established.

Slovene LC Objects to YPA Budget Proposal

LD0501135189 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1028 GMT 5 Jan 89

[Text] Ljubljana, 5 Jan (TANJUG)—Since it is within its competence, the SFRY Assembly's Chamber of the Republics and Provinces should be the body to decide on the amount to be spent for the interim financing of the Yugoslav People's Army [YPA]. This standpoint by the Presidium of the Slovene LC Central Committee reiterates the view Miran Potrc, president of the Slovene Assembly in a letter to Raif Dzidarevic, president of the SFRY Presidency, prompted by a report that the Legislative-Legal Commission of the SFRY Assembly's Federal Chamber had decided that the law which, under amendment 30/6 would provide the YPA budget for 1989, should be considered and adopted by the Federal Chamber. Both Potrc and the Slovene LC Central Committee Presidium are of the view that the constitutional amendments have not altered the competence of the Assembly's chambers. Since the SFRY Presidency has proposed this law, Slovene delegates in the Federal Chamber will insist on leaving it to the chamber of Republics and Provinces to decide on the law. Otherwise Slovene delegates will be obliged, under Article 294/2 of the SFRY Constitution, to recommend a debate on the law. This, according to Miran Potrc, would have significant repercussions for the law and its adoption. In a statement issued today, the Slovene LC Central Committee Presidium says that the procedure favored by the Legislative-Legal Commission would violate both the Constitution and the recently adopted amendments.

"At a time of more thorough examinations of constitutionality and legality and immediately after the adoption of the constitutional amendments designed to consolidate the principle of the state with the rule of law, such a decision is incomprehensible, since it serves to threaten the basic values of our constitutional system and affects sensitive relations in the federation," the Slovene LC Central Committee Presidium maintains.

This issue was discussed by the Presidium in connection with the adoption of the 1989 economic policy documents in the SFRY Assembly and within the framework of the preparations for today's session of the Slovene SAWP Republican Conference. This manner of decision-making, the Slovene LC Central Committee Presidium says, will be an additional obstacle in the process of deciding on the federal budget which, due to its size, is likely to generate additional inflationary pressures.

Amendment 40 to the SFRY Constitution envisaged that if the assemblies of the republics and provinces fail to agree on the total budget for financing the federation by the date the federal budget is due to be adopted, the YPA budget will be determined by a proposal of the SFRY Presidency and will amount to the appropriate part of the total expenditure as set out in the medium-term plan for the current year. Even in this case, according to the Slovene Assembly's Information Secretariat, the expenditure for financing the YPA is the prerogative of the Chamber of Republics and Provinces, which also decides on the sources of funds for financing the YPA.

The Slovene LC Central Committee Presidium will instruct its delegates in the Slovene Assembly's sociopolitical chamber to initiate procedures to establish accountability in the SFRY Assembly for the decision by the Legislative-Legal Commission. This issue is to be considered tomorrow at a session of the Presidium of the Slovene SAWP Republican Conference.

Belgrade Radio Views Future for New FEC

AU0601200989 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1800 GMT 6 Jan 89

[Text] Along with his numerous wrong predictions, the resigning FEC president, Branko Mikulic, was right in May when he said it would be more difficult for the federal government if it were not given a vote of confidence than if it had to submit its resignation. Now that the resignation has been submitted, now is the time to once again recall some matters that are important for the former and, more importantly, the future FEC. Milorad Jovic comments:

It has been noted that Branko Mikulic and the FEC members left the SFRY Assembly with smiles on their faces after they had submitted their collective resignation. It was not evident why they were smiling. This is left up to each of us to decide for ourselves.

Last May when a vote of confidence in this year's work of the FEC from delegates was being fought for, Mikulic said: I am more frightened of what awaits us if you give the FEC a vote of confidence than if you withhold it, because if the measures that we are proposing are not consistently implemented throughout the entire country and if therefore, as has been announced, the question of the responsibility of the FEC and not of those who will possibly not implement these measures is again asked in a few months time, it would be better for the FEC to go now than possibly in the future. This future came at 1300 on the penultimate day of last year and it was obviously not too late for a smile on the faces of the resigning FEC members.

It is certain, however, that whoever is chosen to form the next government will not accept this post with a smile and smiles will disappear from the faces of those to whom he says, I want you to be a member of my government. This is simply because everyone knows what awaits them.

Even though this is known, it would not be out of place to remind ourselves: An inflation rate of around 250 percent, prophets say that it will be 400 or even 500 percent by the end of the year; Kosovo, the day before the FEC submitted its resignation, it was said in the SFRY Assembly that the unacceptable development of events in Kosovo so far is sufficient reason for the FEC to resign and if it does not do this the Assembly should replace it without delay; economic reform, everything in this package remains, that is prices which are going haywire, a market that does not exist, a monopoly (?in consciousness) and about 40 laws that are much easier to pass then to implement but we need no other witnesses than ourselves when we pass them easily. To top it all, some one should hurry and decide to reduce his slice of the joint cake.

All this and much else awaits the next FEC. It will not dare to be like Churchill and promise its people blood, sweat, and tears as a guarantee for a way out of 7 or 47 thin years.

I think that there are many questions which I will not discuss today but on another occasion I will say what the specific position of the FEC, that is the Government in Yugoslavia, consists of in relation to similar situations in any other country. This was said by Branko Mikulic at the end of his speech at the 9th Plenum of the LCY Central Committee. He also said we will speak about that later.

Then let us ask ourselves when we will open Pandora's box and for how long we will be saying we will speak about that later?

Belgrade LC on Protest at VJESNIK Office

AU0601153889 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 6 Jan 89

[Text] The protest by citizens against malicious reporting in VJESNIK's editions on Serbia on the penultimate day of last year in front of this newspaper's Belgrade office is an unacceptable way of expressing dissatisfaction. This was stated by the Belgrade LC City Committee after yesterday's talks between (Borislav Kucmanovic), secretary of the Presidium, and a group of his colleagues and representatives of the citizens who demonstrated their dissatisfaction with the writing of (?VJESNIK) journalists.

It was particularly stressed that unacceptable slogans were shouted during the 10-minute public protest which harm the policy of the Serbian LC and oppose the very aims which the citizens hoped to achieve by gathering. Such behavior does not contribute to the strengthening of mutual trust and destroys the brotherhood and unity of peoples and nationalities.

Representatives of the citizens were self critical in admitting their mistake which arose as a result of a lack of information about the course of differentiation in VJESNIK's Belgrade office.

Slovene SAWP Discusses New Slovene Programs

AU0601164189 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 6 Jan 89

[Text] Representatives of the new political unions—the peasant, democratic, and social democratic—today presented the Slovene Republican Conference Presidium with synopses of the platforms of their political groups. They explained the conditions under which their unions want to remain collective members of the SAWP. Here is a report from Relje Atanasijevic:

The common intention of all three political unions in Slovenia, of which one has existed since the middle of last year and the other two are currently being set up, is that they are starting off on the road to the establishment of a parliamentary democracy. The most radical ones are the Social Democrats whose representative today said that his union was following the example of West European Social Democratic parties.

It was characteristic that the leaders of the new Slovene political unions consciously avoided mentioning socialist self-management.

Their attitudes toward the LC under the new conditions are very similar, although they are to a certain extent justified in different ways. In a diplomatic way, they

have represented their political movements as a replacement for the party or they have demanded that they be on an equal and level footing with the LC within the framework of activity in the SAWP.

The leader of the Social Democratic Union was very resolute. He said that the LC played its role and exhausted it up until 1960.

Tina Tomlje, member of the Slovene LC Central Committee Presidium, stressed that the party did not envisage a descent from power in order for some others to fill the vacated leading position and added that the SAWP should not become anybody's transmission organization [transmisija].

Dusan Semolic, secretary of the Slovene SAWP Republican Conference, stressed that it is not good to spread the illusion that only a multi-party system will bring prosperity. These illusions could halt the positive processes of the democratization of society which are most obvious in the reform of the LC. He mentioned that (?cooperation) between new (?unions) and movements bears witness to their readiness to act within the framework of the SAWP, the reform of which was also essential. A new program is needed for this biggest mass organization which should create a democratic creative climate within the framework of political pluralism to overcome the present crisis and to find a solution to poverty.

Kucan Interviewed by Zagreb Periodical

AU0401130589 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 30 Dec 88 p 13

["Excerpts" from interview with Milan Kucan, president of the Central Committee of the LC of Slovenia, by unidentified interviewer carried by Zagreb periodical OKO—place and date of interview and date of periodical not given]

[Text] [Question] Comrade Kucan, that section of the Yugoslav public which is trying to have an objective view and understanding of the "Slovene trends" is aware of the fact that the Conference of the LC of Slovenia is the first significant political turnabout since the 10th Slovene LC Congress. At that conference, the Slovene LC decided to "soften its approach" that is to gradually cease being a "harsh party in power." As concerns its program, this process could be summed up by several essential premises: dividing the LC from the state, democratization within the LC, directing the LC toward open, public, and democratic communication with the institutions of the system and the public, as well as (as Sonja Lokar, a shrewd person now well-known in all Yugoslavia, put it during an interview by Dejan Jovic in POLET) communication with the spontaneous social consciousness: strikes, new social movements....

[Kucan] Spring winds from the Alps have started blowing eastward and southward even now in winter, across the ice-covered Sutla River. Instead of the much desired "nonparty pluralism," one can clearly discern more and more frequent and fervent anticommunist and antisocialist options, as well as a real party pluralism of a different, even the most radical provenance. The initial encouraging example and enthusiasm coming from Slovenia have already been subjected to "democratic control," that is, control of democracy, depending on the specific requirements of individual communities.

[Question] Comrade Kucan, is the Slovene party leadership "losing control of the situation," that is, are its actions late and its response inefficient?

Reforms Are Not Only the Problem of Communists

[Kucan] It is difficult to provide an answer to questions that are so strongly ideologically "contaminated" and influenced by value judgments. Nevertheless, let me try, because Slovene Communists would do themselves a very bad favor, and others, too, if they resigned themselves to an over-simplified acceptance and assessment of things, so that they are capable of observing and accepting only "encouraging enthusiasm" or "losing control." We do not understand democratization as the process in which the LC or, more precisely, its leadership, or, even more precisely, only several people will foresee and regulate, down to a single millimeter, everything that could happen. Of course, this does not mean losing initiative or responsibility for the direction of social development.

What is involved is not that the LC should keep problems to itself or resume control of them again, but that it should enable people to affirm themselves—in the way that this idea lives in them—as factors of social development toward socialism about which they feel as implying such social relations which ensure the "civilizational" quality of life, the freedom of creative work and thoughts leading to the modern society of the coming century. This is an attempt to direct social development in a democratic way in the direction we decided on at the Conference of the LC of Slovenia.

... Democratization must bring more freedom and it must free creative potentials. However, democratization is also followed by "unpleasant winds," that is, differences and contradictions which exist in all sections of our society and throughout the entire Yugoslav territory, only, some people refuse to see them or that circumstances are such that it is impossible to differentiate among various options, even those which are not socialist, which deliberately ignore communism as an idea and accept it even less as a social project. Democracy also includes hearing unpleasant things, which does not mean that one should and can be reconciled to them.

The Question of Parties Is of Minor Importance

Of course, there is the question of the yardstick one would use in evaluating all this. Are we exaggerating various fears, are we ready to ignore, or even halt extremely

positive trends because of some "unpleasant things," are we becoming opportunistic, are we forgetting our stances and orientations, and failing to say what we think—all this out of fear of not being "democratic" enough—and thus lose our political position. These are those realistic questions to which we in the LC of Slovenia are trying to find an answer in a calm and reasoned way, without the illusion or ambition that what we are doing is irrevocable "democratic control" of the process of democratization, that is, the control of democracy itself. This may be what most bothers some people in Slovenia and all Yugoslavia, causing resistance against reprivatization of industry, social activities, etc. I also think that, from this point of view, some initiatives and programs are undoubtedly controversial, at least those which do not even mention socialism, self-management, and social ownership, those who consider the SFRY to be a contractual community, etc. There are also their links with the SAWP in connection with the program and organization, their links with the SAWP's pluralist political arena. The SAWP itself, by the way, needs a thorough "overhaul," it needs more space for the kind of activity which will be an alternative to official views, concepts, and proposals. It is not sufficient to say one is formally part of the SAWP and thereby legalize one's activity.

... However, there is something else that I consider important. We will by no means help ourselves by shouting hysterically and intolerantly against party pluralism (by the way, there is a stance about this in the LCY Program: "Therefore, it is no problem for Communists whether a system is one-party or multiparty; both may represent a reality of a certain period in the socialist development in different countries"), in the same way as supporters of party pluralism speak out loudly against the LC. Nor will we help ourselves by calmly observing faults in the project and practice of our political system and even stopping ourselves from really elaborating and reviving our party pluralism of a program-project type. The question of parties is really of a minor importance here; the primary and real significanctis the question of political pluralism, creation of democratic pluralistic political arena that will be open enough to democratic expression and confrontation, as well as to the realization of various projects, even political ones and control over their exponents.

It is not true that the Slovene LC does not take stands on certain phenomena. Some may consider this way of taking a stand as a little too loud and a little too pogrom-like, too tolerant, and not executor-like enough. The Republican Conference Presidium of the SAWP of Slovenia will soon discuss political phenomena and various reasons to establish new subjects of politicization which accompany and express the process of democratization, which you just mentioned. It well do so at the initiative of the Central Committee Presidium of the Slovene LC. One would have to examine the initiatives to found the Slovene Democratic Union and the Social-Democratic Union for instance, in an extremely critical and responsible way. Names are not what is most important here. In my opinion, there are two things that are of primary importance: First, the attitude these "subjects of the new politicization" have toward our foundations, toward socialism, national question, the SFRY, self-management, social ownership and position of workers, an impression that we are losing our grip on things. [sentence as published]

... There are still some people in our country who easily view any search for new identity of socialism as doubtful doings. Thus, our orientation toward "socialism to suit the man" was submitted to all kinds of criticism and reproach on the part of various "orthodox people." Despite this, we are trying—now even more intensively—to find a new definition of socialism as a social project and practice which will be economically efficacious, socially successful, and inspiring for creative work and thought, which will lead to the road of modern civilization, and which will be capable of mobilizing Slovenes and all our peoples into the SFRY as a possibility of leading a joint successful life. Human and national sovereignty is not guaranteed by poverty or state authority, but by material well-being and spiritual wealth based in one's own creativity and social community which stimulates creativity through democratic, cultural, and human relations. Are our communities, any one of them anywhere, like that now?

Vojvodina PC Presidium Lists Candidates

LD0601175189 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1417 GMT 6 Jan 89

[Excerpts] Novi Sad, 6 Jan (TANJUG)—Today the Presidium of the Vojvodina LC Provincial Committee [PC] summarized opinions, stances, and proposals concerning the initial nominations for membership in the Vojvodina LC organs and for recruiting members of the Serbian LC Central Committee and the LCY Central Committee. The lists of candidates established by the Presidium today are open to change during that consultations that will be held in municipal party organizations until 12 January. [passage omitted]

Today the Presidium of the Vojvodina LC PC established a list of 136 candidates for membership in the PC, as well as nominations for membership in the Vojvodina LC Statutory and Supervisory Commission. The following 21 candidates are on the list for membership in the Vojvodina LC PC Presidium: Jovan Babovic, Milovan Blazic, Emilija Bruner-Bala, Jovan Ceranic, Slavko Gordic, Jovan Tica, Predrag Jereminov, Mihalj Kertes, Jan Kisgeci, Miodrag Koprivica, Ljubo Latinovic, Jelena Milojevic, Dusko Mirkov, Mirko Mitrov, Vlada Popovic, Stanko Radmilovic, Miroslav Kotlajic, Djordje Romoda, Nedeljko Sipovac, Mirjana Zlatkovic. A candidate is to be nominated by the Pancevo Municipal Committee of the Vojvodina LC.

The nomination list of candidates for recruiting members of the Serbian LC Central Committee contains 28 names: Miklos Abel, Vladimir Antic, Djordje Arnaut, Radoman Bozovic, Radomir Brajkovic, Stanko Culjak, Macas Fodor, Radosav Gvozdic, Katalin Herceg, Rada Jelenic, Stevo Joic, Dragica Kantardzic, Dusan Latinovic, Nikola Martinovic, Dusan Milosevic, Ivan Naumov, Ljubimir Novakovic, Stojan Avic, Istvan Sic, Mihajlo Stanivukovic, Dusko Stipanovic, Ondrej Trnovski, and Milos Zivkov.

The following candidates are on the list for recruiting members of the LCY Central Committee: Janos Domokos, Streten Djuric, Petar Ivancevic, Mitar Janjic, Aleksandar Kovacevic, Svetozar Krstic, Ljiljana Mitrovic, Rajko Popovic, Radovan Pankov, Djordje Scepancevic, Tomislav Vojvodic, Mirko Vrgov, and Dragutin Zelenovic.

The Vojvodina PC Presidium decided that the previously announced 9 January PC session will be postponed until 13 January for technical reasons and to permit better preparation.

Aspects of Croatian Scene Viewed

AU0301212989 Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian 28 Dec 88 p 11

[Radoje Arsenic report: "Fear of a 'Double Name'"]

[Text] Zagreb, 27 December—"The Croatian literary language" and "the Croatian or Serbian language" are two forms of the name of the language established in the Constitution of the SR of Croatia which in the next 2 months (how long the public discussion on the amendments to the republican Constitution will last) will cause clashes and the settling of accounts which will be motivated by this one language spoken by four Yugoslav peoples.

Our predictions in a previous article on this subject are being confirmed because in the meantime several reactions have appeared in our press mainly signed with names that are well-known from stormy confrontations concerning this subject which have taken place in the last few years. On the whole, they attack the view of the SFRY Constitutional Court that the first form is unconstitutional (in the present Constitution) and advocate that it should not be changed, while they claim that the second one, which is contained in the proposed amendment and offers the possibility of the language being called either Croatian or Serbian (or both if you like), implies the existence of two languages. This is the opinion of Ivo Kalinski in VJESNIK's Saturday supplement, while Slobodan Novak in the latest DANAS has deeper fears: "If, however, this crisis situation and our heroic retreat in the face of pressures continue, the day is not far off when we will have to call the Croatian Assembly by a double name," he writes.

Christmas Without Official Greetings

It seems that supporters of the present name of the language in the Constitution of the SR of Croatia fear this "double name" the most but along with all those texts which attempt to explain this attitude, there is no rational explanation why even the Serbian name for the same language could not be in the Constitution of the SR of Croatia, but in this way it is being forced to remain in private use. The fact that Serbs are also a part of Croatia obviously does not penetrate someone's ears and consciousness regardless of the past centuries or of the fact that more than 100 years ago this language could also be officially called by the two national names in Croatia.

In order for everything to be even less straightforward, the Catholic bishops in the SR of Croatia have appeared in public with their "Contribution to the Discussion on the Name of the Language in the Constitution of the SR of Croatia" and suggest that "for the sake of the common good, the constitutional principle concerning the public use of the Croatian literary language should be preserved in the peaceful possession of the Croatian people." The text is dated 13 October 1988 and was published in GLAS KONCILA on Christmas Day on 25 December. On the same day, key passages were read out without commentary (and the usual derision) on the youth radio station "101."

As we have already arrived at Christmas, let us mention that it has also finally reached "public life" here, true, by the back door, that is, it has reached our television screens. There was no Christmas message from some state official or mass, as in neighboring Slovenia, but the presenters of the appropriate program on the Zagreb TV city channel gave best wishes to the viewers and participants for this religious holiday. This program also showed, among other things, the traditions appropriate to this day.

As far as the official Christmas greetings are concerned, judging at least by the announcement by Zdenko Svete (president of the Croatian Assembly Executive Council Commission for Relations With Religious Communities), this was not discussed in the state organs here, and it is difficult to predict whether such a thing will ever take place, as one should bear in mind that as many as 28 religious communities operate in the SR of Croatia and they are all equal.

Committee for Peasants

Many people are increasingly inclined to interpret the neglect of villages and agriculture in general with the fact that individual agricultural producers (as we have clumsily called peasants for years) do not have the opportunity to express their interests. Since the founding of the Peasants Union in the SR of Slovenia with the real characteristics of a political party, thoughts on this subject have also become alive in the SR of Croatia.

At the meeting which was recently held in the Croatian SAWP Republican Conference, it was concluded that "forms of activity in which the gathering of peasants would dominate," should be organized within the framework of the SAWP. Of course, many more discussions are ahead before a final solution is formulated, but it is already certain now that bodies will be set up from which the authentic voice of agricultural workers will be heard. If this does not come about in a satisfactory way, Cedo Grbic, who is unavoidable in such a matter, believes that peasants would continue to think and attempt to set up a special peasant political organization or even several of them. Grbic otherwise thinks that from the level of local communities to republican level the setting up of committees, unions, or councils on the delegate principle and in which two thirds of the members would be peasants, should be facilitated within the framework of the SAWP. Elections would be secret and these bodies would propose society's measures and policy as regards the countryside and agriculture in general.

Waste and Policy

While some people are afraid of mysterious radioactive rays, others fear to no lesser degree "an emission" of a different sort and place, in this context, the great distress of inhabitants of the Vrginmost area because of waste dug up from the Gline mine in Blatusa. As is well-known, two barrels of waste from a Zagreb hospital (this involved syringes and empty cans for radioactive material for diagnostic purposes) were dug up but it was confirmed that this was not dangerous to the environment. However, within the context of the idea that there have been attempts "from outside" to provoke and activate Croatian nationalism, this question has been asked (in the latest DANAS):

"Was radioactive waste found with the same aim at precisely this moment at Kordun which is inhabited mainly by a Serbian population? Letters on how the inhabitants will not give up Kordun and how they will not emigrate from it (probably in parallel with Kosovo) have already unmistakably come to light in newspapers which know exactly what they want."

How should this message be read? Considering that it is not mentioned that the waste that was labeled radioactive was dug up secretly and without a permit and even without the knowledge of any local organ, and considering the fact that there was no reply as to why it had not been destroyed in Zagreb, when it was already so harmless (which is now an established fact)—this is perhaps not so difficult: Do not write about "hot" subjects from areas inhabited mainly by Serbs because that smells as if nationalism is being stirred up. The logic is really not unfamiliar either. So there we are; waste appears even on the political scene.

11 Kosovo LC Committee Members Resign

LD0701150889 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1441 GMT 7 Jan 89

[Text] Pristina, 7 Jan (TANJUG)—At the session of the Kosovo LC Provincial Committee today, resignations of 11 members of the Provincial Committee were accepted without discussion. The resignations are for different reasons. The main reason for resigning for some who had already left the highest party forum in Kosovo is the wish to contribute to cadre renewal. Some, however, cited personal and family problems, and others were explicit in pointing out that they had resigned because they could not reconcile themselves with the inconsistency, incomptence, and unreadiness of the Provincial Committee to undertake major tasks for resolving the Kosovo drama. They also see their own responsibility for this situation.

Resignations were submitted by: Slobodan Ascetovic, Haljit Radzepi, Milorad Moracic, Miodrag Jablanovic, Nikola Dimic, Fazlji Mazreku, Rusit Ramadani, Besire Djudjealo, Kadri Balazi, Vehbi Keka, and Milorad Tomasevic.

Kosovo Committee Approves Candidate List

LD0701231189 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1741 GMT 7 Jan 89

[Text] Pristina, 7 Jan (TANJUG)—After 6 hours of discussion, the Provincial Committee of the LC of Kosovo approved the proposed list of candidates for the Provincial Committee and its Presidium, and also for the LCY Central Committee from Kosovo. Despite many new proposals made during the session itself, in the end by a majority vote the Provincial Committee approved the originally proposed list of 62 candidates for the Provincial Committee of the LC of Kosovo, 25 of whom have also been proposed for the Provincial Committee Presidium. There are 11 candidates on the list for the LCY Central Committee from Kosovo.

The number of candidates on all these lists, which again provided the occasion for a polarized discussion and views, is much greater than the number of members to be elected.

Until the final selection has been made the lists will be discussed again by party rank and file members, which has been assessed as a significant step in the democratization of cadre policy.

Kosovo LC on Organ Candidates

LD0801214989 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1254 GMT 7 Jan 89

[Excerpts] Pristina, 7 Jan (TANJUG)—In the Kosovo LC wide activity started by its members and basic organizations for registering and proposing candidates for top party organs in the province, the republic, and the LCY, which is in accordance with criteria about cadre renewal of these organs. At the same time, great interest was expressed, as well as full support for cadre renewal and the process of differentiation and establishing responsibility.

These assessments from the introductory speech by Hisen Kajdomcaj, executive secretary of the Kosovo LC Provincial Committee Presidium, were the starting point for a discussion on establishing possible candidates for members of the Kosovo LC Provincial Committee, Serbian LC Central Committee, and LCY Central Committee from the Kosovo LC at the session today.

Stressing that 5,000 possible candidates are registered in Kosovo for renewal of a third of members of these LC organs, Kajdomcaj said that the question of cadres and cadre policy is increasingly understood as a necessary presupposition for more efficient activity by Communists in difficult Kosovo conditions.

Every activity conducted in the province, especially in the area of the cadre policy, must be in concert with the complexity and demands of the situation, he noted.

In pleading for the election of cadres who enjoy the respect and confidence of the Communists, working people, and citizens of all our nations and nationalities, Kajdomcaj made the assessment that the activity pursued so far had demonstrated that some LC organizations and the Communists in them had not yet grasped more fully the substance of the process of cadre renewal.

It is a fact that some LC basic organizations and leaderships have not yet gotten rid of formalism, opportunism, routine styles of work, and improvisation. This is why specific shortcomings have emerged—the number of candidates in material production who have been put forward is inadequate; there have been cases of candidates names being put forward outside the municipality in which they live; proposals have been put forward and approved without discussion and explanation; and names have been put forward for the Provincial Committee and its Presidium membership of the people who already sit on these organs. Once again some cases of division and polarization on the national basis have surfaced and this, said Kajdomcaj, cannot be considered outside the context of the overall situation in Kosovo. [passage omitted]

Caslav Bojanic proposed that the Provincial Committee should relieve all the remaining Presidium members of their duties because more than anyone else they are responsible for the current situation in Kosovo. In this context he specially pointed out the responsibility of the Provincial Committee Presidium of the Kosovo LC because of their hesitation and procrastination over evaluation of the November protests and the meetings of Albanians in Pristina and other towns in the Province.

According to Bojanic this party forum also bears the responsibility for the frequent cases of party cards being returned from Serb and Montenegrin environments as an expression of their lack of confidence in the Presidium and in the Kosovo LC Provincial Committee. Bojanic also believes that the conduct of the Kosovo LC Provincial Committee Presidium concerning the constitutional changes in the Serbia Socialist Republic and the opposition to these changes as demonstrated, he said, during yesterday's session of the Constitutional Commission of the Serbia Socialist Republic, are impermissible.

Remzi Koljgeci who was chairing the session, stressed that the LC Provincial Committee has set up a working group which will examine and establish any responsibility in the case of every member of the LC Provincial Committee and its Presidium. He said that the Provincial Committee Presidium of the Kosovo LC has decided to ask the Kosovo Constitutional Commission for a detailed report on the process of coordination of the outstanding issues concerning the changes to the Constitution of the Serbia Socialist Republic so far. The work of the members of the Kosovo Constitutional Commission will be assessed politically and if it is established that they have not acted in accordance with party conclusions then ideo-political measures will be taken against them. Koljgeci said that the Kosovo LC Provincial Committee and the public, too, will be informed about it. [passage omitted]

Taking part in the debate Milenko Petrovic, executive secretary of the Serbia LC Central Committee Presidium, said that it would have been better if the business of establishing responsibility had been completed before this discussion in the Provincial Committee. We are running out of time, with many unfinished tasks and we must provide complete answers to all outstanding issues instead of creating fresh ambiguities. We have to talk with all the people leaving the leaderships and coming into them, and do so in keeping with the generally agreed criteria on cadre policy. Men of honor, knowledge, and skill are required who enjoy everyone's trust in Kosovo. They all have to be discussed in a democratic way, said Petrovic, and the very fact that during the procedure so far the names of almost 5,000 people have been put forward speaks of the commitment of basic organizations and municipal committees to pick quality out of quantity. Obviously it will not be possible to satisfy all the proposals and for this reason one must be tolerant. On the other hand, warned Petrovic, there will be no results if the people not enjoying trust were to be found on the lists. The most important thing is that the people should get the support in the environments in which they live. More young people are required, but one should not dispense with some older and experienced cadres. I respect health problems, but in this struggle the experience of older people and the drive and enthusiasm of the young ones should fully come to the fore. [passage omitted]

Since in several instances he was spoken of as one of the possible candidates for responsible offices in the province, Ali Sukrija said that this had been discussed in the Presidia of the LCY Central Committee, the Serbia LC Central Committee, and the Kosovo LC Provincial Committee. In connection with the proposal that I should be a member of the Presidium, and even the president of the Presidium of the Kosovo LC Provincial

Committee, I sought understanding because of my health and age. I should like to thank everyone who has proposed me, but I will shortly be 70 and will have been a party member for 50 years. I have traversed the path ranging from the party cell secretary to the president of the Presidium of the LCY Central Committee. For quite some time now I have had serious health problems especially with my heart. I underwent surgery on a number of occasions and my physical abilities have been halved. Please accept that I am not in a state to take on the tasks which have been offered, said Sukrija. In connection with the proposal made during the session today that he should remain a member of the LCY Central Committee Sukrija said that this would not be in line with the criteria of cadre renewal, but he left the final decision to the Provincial Committee members. Let that proposal be discussed and let a decision be made.

Because of several political undertones during the discussion today Nebi Gasi warned that they lead to further mistrust and disunity. He suggested that the Provincial Committee should dedicate one of the upcoming sessions to the situation and the relations within its own ranks and clarify the problems which exist between its membership. Without that, Gasi remarked, the relations at grass roots level will not improve.

During the remainder of the session, with much disagreement on how the decisions and votes should be conducted, the Provincial Committere accepted, with only two votes against it, the list of candidates for the top party organs in the Province and the LCY just as it was originally proposed by the Provincial Committee Presidium. Proposals for extending the list were not accepted, although it was noted that in the course of the public discussion on them which will follow, new names can be put forward.

On the list of a total of 62 possible candidates for membership of the Kosovo LC Provincial Committee there are 25 proposed names for candidates for membership of the Provincial Committee Presidium, from which only 5 should be elected.

These are: Agim Malja; Tomislav Sekulic; Sonja Scepanovic; Momcilo Trajkovic; Isen Kajdomcaj; Fatmir Sejdiju; Zivojin Cuckic; Sefcet Mustafa; Redzep Hajrulahu; Dragan Antdonijevic; Haljilj Kamtrasi; Skender Gasin; Muhamet Menici; Djordje Bozovic; Dobrosav Radovic; Kadri Metaj; Hamdi Cerimi; Ilijaz Ramajli; Sakir Maksut; Enver Baki; Semsi Medjuani; Gani Jasari; Baskim Hisari; Bajram Seljani and Rahman Morina.

A list of the following candiates for membership of the LCY Central Committee from the Kosovo LC is being forwarded to the party base: Ali Buza; Jusuf Zejnulahu; Ljubo Radovic; Slavoljub Vujovic; Blagoje Milenkovic; Obrad Jankovic; Liman Matosi; Cemailj Pantina; Skender Ramadni; Hilmi Ismaili; Ismet Krasnici.

In connection with this list it was stated that consultations would be conducted once again, and that during next week the Kosovo LC Provincial Committee Presidium will have to present the names of those members of the LCY Central Committee from the Kosovo LC who are to stay or who are to be relieved of their functions.

The whole procedure and activities will be analyzed in detail at one of the upcoming sessions of the Provincial Committee, said Remzi Koljgeci, concluding the discussion. In the discussion there were also some questions which did not relate to the agenda, as well as criticisms of the Presidium's work to date. This can be discussed, but in a reasonable way. Everyone who has a criticism should begin with himself, and there are those who only criticize, said Koljgeci. It is a good thing that some comrades have reminded us that we should have first discussed the issue of the ideo-political responsibility of the Provincial Committee and this Presidium. But we need time for this. With the forming of the new Presidium things will move more quickly, was the hope expressed by Remzi Koljgeci.

At the end of today's session of the Provincial Committee, in the Any Other Business section of the agenda Azem Vlasi, mentioning articles by POLITIKA ILUSTROVANA POLITIKA and statements in a program on Belgrade Television to the effect that he had been one of the organizers of the mass gatherings and demonstrations by Albanians, called for the Provincial Committee Presidium publicly to pronounce and adopt a stance on this crude disinformation and lie, as he put it. Vlasi added that the aim of those who initiated such lies was to continue the campaign against some cadres and "to seek the organizers of the gatherings in the provincial leadership, neither more nor less." At the same time Azem Vlasi proposed that information be drawn up on the stage which had been reached in coordinating the unresolved issues in the changes to the Serbian constitution and what the situation was at present.

Camilj Rasica, supporting Vlasi's demands, also called for a reaction to be issued. In some papers, he said, the name of Sadik Vlasali, the chairman of the management board of the Kosovo Electricity Industry is mentioned as being one of the organizers of the demonstrations. It is the final moment for ending these articles which are not based on reasonable argument, since they irritate the working class, said Rasica.

Remzi Koljgeci, presiding, said the Provincial Committee Presidium did not have available the information mentioned in the papers which had been referred to. A detailed analysis is being developed of the November events in Kosovo which will be drawn up jointly by the party presidia of Yugosalvia, Serbia and Kosovo and it should present answers to these and many other unresolved Kosovo issues.

He also explained that at the next session of the Provincial Committee Presidium the reports of the Kosovo Constitutional Commission on the course of the coordination of the changes to the Serbian Constitution would be considered. In this connection there will also be an assessment of the behavior of the members of the Kosovo Constitutional Commission and if it is assessed that someone has behaved in a way that does not conform to party stances, he will be called to account. The Kosovo public, and the wider public, should not become politicized in connection with this problem, concluded Koljgeci.

Istok Security, Police Officials Dismissed
LD0601001089 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1803 GMT 5 Jan 89

[Excerpt] Pristina, 5 Jan (TANJUG)—The establishment of responsibility and the dismissal of Radivoje Dumanovic, head of public security in Istok municipality, and of Cerim Demaj, commander of the police station there, was conducted in the spirit of the conclusions of the top party and state organs of the country concerning Kosovo and with the aim of strengthening and preparing these organs for the successful carrying out of their tasks.

This is the essence of the explanation of the Kosovo Provincial Secretariat for Internal Affairs in connection with reactions to the dismissal of Radivoje Dumanovic, head of the state security section, by citizens of the Serbian and Montenegrin nationality from Istok municipality.

Dumanovic was dismissed for misuse of his official position and for overstepping official authority. Together with Cerim Demaj, commander of the Istok police station, he is responsible for the idleness, ineffectivness, and inefficiency of the Istok section of public security in performing their obligations, the Provincial Secretariat for Internal Affairs states precisely. [passage omitted]